



The **McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement** is seeking applicants for the

Innovation Scholars Program

These competitive scholarships of **\$8,000 per year** are open to rising juniors and incoming transfer students at the University of Mississippi. Scholars will work with the Catalyzing Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (CEED) initiative at the McLean Institute. Ten scholarships will be awarded to UM Innovation Scholars. Successful applicants will be exemplary undergraduate students with an interest in entrepreneurship and community & economic development in Mississippi's rural communities. The two-year period for each project will be used to research a problem and to develop and pilot a sustainable and scalable solution. Solutions will take various forms: a fully developed business plan, a detailed framework for a non-profit organization, or a significant policy or academic research paper. Students will work with local communities to identify and refine compelling topics and to implement solutions. Projects will address social problems including poverty, education, asset building, and healthcare.

Dr. Albert Nylander, director of the McLean Institute and Professor of Sociology, will provide supervision for the scholars. Each year, our cohort of Innovation Scholars will focus on a small number of communities. For the 2015-2017 cohort, Innovation Scholars will work in a rural community in either the Mississippi Delta or Northeast Mississippi.

Innovation scholars will be required to complete the following during their junior and senior years:

- Participate in workshops sponsored by the McLean Institute and the Innovation Hub at Insight Park.
- Complete either a summer internship or field work in their partner community for summer 2016. Innovation Scholars will be provided an additional \$3,000 to support their summer work.
- Complete one course on entrepreneurship or social entrepreneurship (MOOC) during their final year in the program. Projects may take the form of a business plan, policy proposal, nonprofit framework, or other scalable and actionable ideas.

To apply, eligible students must submit the following to ceed@olemiss.edu by **5:00 PM on March 18, 2015**:

- A 1-2 page resume highlighting community service experience and relevant research or coursework.
- A two page statement of purpose highlighting your interest in community and economic development.
- A copy of unofficial transcripts from all undergraduate institutions attended.

Review of applications will begin on March 19, 2015. Finalists may be interviewed.