Summary:
The McNAIR Center for Aerospace Innovation and Research is currently looking for 2 Graduate Assistants (GA) beginning Fall 2016. Students already enrolled for Summer 2016 are eligible to begin immediately.

Responsibilities:
Both Graduate Assistant positions will support the efforts of Professors Zafer Gurdal and Michel van Tooren in the Mechanical Engineering department of the College of Engineering and Computing.

Graduate Assistants will be required to work 20 hours/week during the academic year and full time (37.5 hours/week) during summer months. Each will work on funded research being conducted at the McNAIR Center. Assistantships will include 12-month stipend and tuition remission. Stipend amount will be determined based on education level and experience in the field of research.

Minimum Requirements:
Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Must have Master’s Degree in relevant engineering field
- Must have been accepted to the USC Graduate School (Ph.D. candidate) within the College of Engineering and Computing
- Experience in the research areas described in the position descriptions below

Applicants must be able to work with minimal supervision, have attention to detail, must be dependable and must have superior verbal and written communication skills.

GA Position #1:
Analysis, design and optimization of thin-walled composite structures with non-conventional laminate configurations is an important topic for future generation of air and space vehicles with innovative concepts. The McNAIR Center is looking for a PhD student with mechanical and aerospace engineering background (or related engineering fields) who have expertise in engineering mechanics, structural mechanics, composite materials and structures. Familiarity with state for the art numerical analysis techniques, finite element methods, and commercial analysis and design tools will be highly desirable.

GA Position #2:
Design of future composite aircraft vehicles with innovative structural concepts will require experimental validation of the analysis and design tools for efficient certification of such vehicles. The McNAIR Center is looking for a PhD student who is well versed in experimental mechanics, in particular experimental methods for composite materials and structures, to develop certification methods for
novel composite laminate configurations. Familiarity with experimental methods for structures, in particular composite materials and structures, and mechanics of failure of composites is highly desirable.

Application Process:
If interested, please email cover letter and CV to Adrianne Beasley, Program Manager at the McNAIR Center: abeasley@sc.edu.