About the Assistantship

The Ecohydrology and Watershed Science group at North Carolina State University (NCSU) invites highly qualified candidates to apply for a graduate research assistantship on a new project funded by the National Science Foundation Coastal SEES program and the NCSU College of Natural Resources. The successful candidate will study landscape salinization and impacts on freshwater-dependent ecosystems in coastal North Carolina as part of a larger, interdisciplinary effort to understand coupled human and natural processes associated with climate-driven salinization of surface waters and adjacent lands. This candidate will join an interdisciplinary cohort of doctoral students whose research foci will span natural and social sciences. Specifically, the team will rely on a range of methods to assess and model salinization-related impacts to water resources, wildlife, forest product markets, and tourism in the region. Assessments of adaptive capacity, governance networks and stakeholder information flows will enhance the ability to build community climate readiness during outreach and engagement workshops. The workshops will employ cutting edge geospatial and visualization tools to help researchers and community members work together to understand salinization and its effects, and test adaptation strategies in a virtual space. Desired qualifications include a Master’s degree in hydrology or related environmental sciences, experience with hydrological fieldwork, expertise in Matlab or similar analytical software, and familiarity with geospatial computing tools. Exceptionally qualified Bachelor’s degree holders will also be considered.

The assistantship is a 12-month 20-hour per week position beginning January, 2015. The position includes a competitive stipend, tuition, fees and health insurance benefits. Funds for professional development purposes are available. This position is funded for 3 years and is renewable each year based on satisfactory progress.
About the College

CNR (http://cnr.ncsu.edu) is a world leader in the sustainable use of natural resources. CNR’s comprehensive approach to teaching, research and service encompasses the many and varied ways in which people’s physical, economic and social needs are met through the wise use of natural resources. CNR is committed to interdisciplinary research, teaching and engagement, as nurturing and enjoying the environment and engineering sustainable products go hand-in-hand with helping communities and enterprises thrive. The faculty, staff, students and alumni of CNR are discovering and sharing real world solutions to real world problems everyday.

About the Department

The Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources (cnr.ncsu.edu/fer) is one of the oldest and largest departments of its kind in the nation. The department’s global reach and broad scope reflect environmental concerns as well as industry needs. The department is recognized worldwide for cutting-edge research that is cross-disciplinary and innovative. Major research themes within the department include water, forest ecosystems and geospatial analytics among others.

Responsibilities

• Actively engage in interdisciplinary research as part of a team that includes faculty advisors and project collaborators. Research activities include literature reviews, field data collection, analyses and dissemination of findings through journal articles, presentations and public engagements.
• Assist or lead in writing funding proposals, technical and non-technical reports, and peer-reviewed journal articles.
• Mentor, train and supervise undergraduate research assistants affiliated with the project.
• Maintain good standing as a graduate student, progressing steadily toward completion of the PhD degree.

Qualifications

Potential candidates must meet NCSU and departmental admission standards in addition to meeting the technical qualifications described above. Individuals with interdisciplinary backgrounds and experiences are especially encouraged to apply. Travel is required.

For Further Information and Application Instructions, Contact:

Dr. Ryan Emanuel (ryan_emanuel@ncsu.edu), Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, NC State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a candidate is selected.

NC State University promotes equal opportunity and prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon one’s age, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation and veteran status.

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