Postdoctoral fellowship: Ice and Society Interactions / Interdisciplinary Natural and Social Sciences

Advisors: Dave Sutherland and Mark Carey, University of Oregon

Location: Department of Earth Sciences and Environmental Studies Program, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, USA

Duration: up to 2 years

Topic: Ice, society, and resilience: Probing the timescales of human interactions with cryospheric change

Description: This University of Oregon funded project aims to explore glacier fluctuations from both a physical science perspective and societal lens. What is the impact of cryospheric change and ice loss on local communities in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska region? How do we reconcile the long-term trends in glacier change with observed short-term variations, and how do the short-term changes affect various social groups differently? To make progress on these questions, this project will develop a more nuanced, time-focused approach to glacier change, examining the impacts of ice change on various marine and land-based ecosystems, as well as analyze how different human communities and individuals are affected by the timing of specific changes in socio-cryospheric systems across the greater Northwest region. The project is jointly led by a physical scientist (Dave Sutherland) and social scientist (Mark Carey), who will both co-mentor the postdoctoral fellow for this integrated, interdisciplinary research.

Position details. This is a two-year position to begin as early as Summer 2020. The salary is $50,004 per year (plus benefits, such as health insurance), with an additional $2,000 per year in research funds provided. The postdoctoral researcher will collaborate with a diverse research team from multiple units, utilize a wide range of techniques and data sources from both the ice and society realms, and be involved in extensive mentoring and training on conducting multi-disciplinary collaborative projects. Finally, the postdoc will have the opportunity to support university-wide initiatives related to resilience and broader socio-environmental research.

Qualifications. We seek a postdoctoral researcher with a strong interdisciplinary background related to ice/climate and society. The postdoctoral researcher may come with a background based in the natural sciences, social sciences, or humanities but must demonstrate clear experience with cross-disciplinary work, which could include participation in cross-disciplinary teams, managing multi-person research projects, and/or building integrated research networks. Applicants must have field-based research experience and a record of community or stakeholder interaction. The successful applicant must have a Ph.D. by the start date. Applicants should have a record of good written and spoken communication skills, as well as evidence of being an independent researcher with a collaborative attitude.

To Apply: Review of applications will begin on February 17, 2020. Completed applications should be sent to Dave Sutherland (dsuth@uoregon.edu) and include: (1) a curriculum vitae; (2) a cover letter that explains precisely how your research background, qualifications, and interdisciplinary experience could contribute to this project; (3) the names and contact information of three recommenders.

The Setting: Located 110 miles south of Portland, the University of Oregon has an enrollment of approximately 25,000 students. The Eugene metro area (pop. 215,000) is in a region noted for its dynamic quality of life and progressive cultural environment. We are about an hour's drive from both the Pacific Ocean and the Cascade Mountains, situated along the beautiful Willamette River.

The University of Oregon is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Candidates who promote and enhance diversity are strongly desired. For more information, contact either Dave Sutherland (dsuth@uoregon.edu) or Mark Carey (carey@uoregon.edu).