

Postdoctoral Associate – Data Observation Network for Earth (DataONE)

The National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis (NCEAS) at the University of California, Santa Barbara, is recruiting a postdoctoral associate to work in the engagement of scientists and other stakeholders in the collaborative process of improving access to scientific data across ecology and environmental sciences.

To address the growing environmental, social, and technological challenges facing the world, scientists, educators, librarians, resource managers, and the public need open, persistent, robust, and secure access to well-described and easily discovered data about the Earth's ecosystems. DataONE is designed to provide the distributed framework, sound management, and reliable technologies which enable the long-term preservation of diverse and complex multi-scale, multi-discipline, and multi-national science data.

Responsibilities of this postdoctoral position include participation in the team effort to inform development of cyberinfrastructure for the environmental sciences, facilitation of Community Engagement Working Group activities associated with DataONE, and participation in the development of training materials to convey best practices in environmental data management and other aspects of ecoinformatics.

Collaboration with a broad network of colleagues across disciplines, and reporting to the Working Group leaders and DataONE directors will require excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Many research projects could be complementary to the role envisioned for this postdoctoral position, depending on the candidate's background and interests. For example, opportunities exist for research projects related to science education, sociology of science, or environmental science at the interface with technology.

Candidates should have (or soon have) a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences, Ecology, Information or Library Science, Sociology, or another relevant field. The successful candidate will have demonstrated excellent communication skills through a record of publication and public presentation, and a strong interest in advancing the scientific endeavor through facilitating collaboration and access to existing knowledge. The postdoc in this position will be expected to be an active member of the NCEAS community, engaging in professional development training opportunities and seminars with other NCEAS postdocs, and to travel several times a year to Working Group meetings and for presentation of DataONE work at conferences.

The postdoc will work under the direct supervision of Dr. Stephanie Hampton (NCEAS), and will be anticipated to be in residence at NCEAS by the end of 2009. Interested candidates should send a C.V., a brief statement of interest in this position, and a list of 3 references and their contact information to hampton@nceas.ucsb.edu. Further inquiries about suitability for the position are quite welcome. For more information about NCEAS, please visit: www.nceas.ucsb.edu.