

Doctoral Research Fellowship Water Policy and Governance Utah State University

Utah State University invites applications for a PhD-level graduate research fellowship to analyze water policy changes and innovations occurring in Utah, a rapidly growing and urbanizing state in the United States Intermountain West. This fellowship opportunity is part of a multi-year, NSF-funded study aimed at understanding water resources sustainability in the urbanizing Wasatch Range Metropolitan Area (WRMA); see www.iutahepscor.org for more information. The successful applicant will be expected to:

- (a) conduct policy analysis of water strategies and reforms currently being debated in the state;
- (b) situate changes occurring in Utah's water sector within broader (regional, national, global) political, social, and economic dynamics and decision-making processes;
- (c) examine the interface between science and policy to evaluate how researchers can work productively to engage policy processes and ensure the relevance of their sciences;
- (d) incorporate findings into dissertation chapters and co-authored publications; and,
- (e) participate in iUTAH doctoral fellow mentoring activities.

The successful applicant will conduct an examination of the state's water policy landscape with a view toward characterizing the critical boundaries, as well as the boundary-spanning processes and information sharing tools, that: connect deliberations about water to other pressing public policy issues; affect the way water is governed; and, influence the ways in which various aspects of water management get prioritized on the state's policy agenda.

The home department for this student will be Environment and Society in the Quinney College of Natural Resources at Utah State University (USU) in Logan, Utah. The student will pursue a **Ph.D. in Human Dimensions of Ecosystem Science and Management with an emphasis in natural resource and environmental policy**. All iUTAH fellows have the opportunity and are expected to work in an interdisciplinary, cross-institutional research team that includes researchers from USU, the University of Utah, and several other Utah universities. Full doctoral research fellowship support for a qualified student on this project is initially guaranteed for 3 years at a rate of \$20,000 per year (plus a full tuition award), with expectations and opportunities to pursue supplemental funding from internal and external sources in future years.

Prospective students should contact Dr. Joanna Endter-Wada for more information (joanna.endter-wada@usu.edu). Please include a current resume, statement of research interests, and names of three references with your inquiry. Application deadline is February 1, 2014.



Why Utah and USU? The Wasatch Front and surrounding agricultural valleys of Northern Utah (including Cache Valley where USU is located) are regionally representative and interesting places to conduct water policy research. USU is Utah's land grant institution. The area has stunning landscapes with nearby ski resorts, lakes, rivers, and mountains. Housing costs are lower than the national average, and there are diverse cultural opportunities. Northern Utah is close to the most scenic National Parks in the USA, including Zion, Bryce Canyon, Canyonlands, Arches, Capitol Reef, Grand Teton, Great Basin, and Yellowstone.