

Post-Doctoral Position

Modeling coupled human-natural water systems

The iUTAH (innovative Urban Transitions and Aridregion Hydro-sustainability) project anticipates hiring 2-4 postdoctoral fellows in the coming year. At least one position will be a post-doctoral fellow with modeling expertise to work with iUTAH hydrologists, ecologists, climate scientists, social scientists, planners, and engineers on our interdisciplinary team.

- The primary focus is to lead development of and experimentation with modeling frameworks for investigating human-natural interactions related to the region's water quality and water supply. iUTAH has hydrologic, ecological, climate, land use, and agent-based models under development, and opportunities for validating their coupling include sophisticated terrestrial and aquatic sensor arrays installed by iUTAH along the region's mountain and urban environments.
- As a secondary task, the selected candidate will work with stakeholders and scientists to
 investigate a suite of scenarios representing future changes in the water system that can be used as
 a common basis for model evaluations by the interdisciplinary project team, and guide
 development of frameworks that stakeholders can use to interact with the models and visualize
 water outcomes.

The selected candidate will become a post-doctoral associate at the University of Utah, and will interact with project participants at Utah State University, Brigham Young University, and other campuses in Utah. The position has an initial appointment of one year, with the option of renewal for a second year, subject to satisfactory progress and the availability of funds.

Expected background: Applicants should hold a Ph.D. in ecology, hydrology, climate science, natural resource management, engineering, sociology, planning, or a related field with expertise and experience in water systems modeling. Priority in reviewing applications will be given to applicants who have demonstrated interest in bridging across disciplines, who have interest in linking their work to the development of coupled models of human-natural systems, who complement and build on existing strengths in the iUTAH team, and who are amenable to training in a team setting.

Larger Project: The iUTAH Project is building an integrated research platform to study coupled human-natural water systems along a montane-through-urban gradient in three watersheds along the Wasatch Front of northern Utah. This region is experiencing unusually rapid population growth and climate models predict dramatic changes in water availability. Understanding water sustainability in this region requires an interdisciplinary approach to studying the linked biophysical, social, and engineered aspects of urban water systems. For more information about iUTAH and its faculty, please visit http://iutahepscor.org/.

Application Process: Applications must consist of a single PDF file, containing (in this order): cover letter, statement of research interests, curriculum vitae, and the names, expertise, and contact information of three references. Applicants may also include as a separate part of their submission separate PDFs for up to three of their peer-reviewed publications relevant to their application. For inquiries, please contact Prof. Court Strong at the University of Utah (court.strong@utah.edu). Completed applications should be sent to iutepscor@gmail.com. Please indicate "Application for Post-doctoral Position iUTAH RFA3" in the subject line of the submission e-mail. The review of applications begins on December 1, 2014. However, we will continue to receive and consider applications until the position is filled. The preferred appointment start date is early 2015.