Ph.D. Graduate Research Opportunity  
Hydrology/Soil Physics
Utah State University
The Environmental Soil Physics Group at Utah State University invites applications for a PhD-level graduate research assistantship in either Civil and Environmental Engineering or Soil (Physics) Science starting in Fall of 2014. This opportunity is part of a multi-year, NSF funded study aimed at understanding water resources sustainability in the urbanizing Wasatch Front (see www.iutahepscor.org for more information), and will specifically focus on carrying out water balance estimates within watershed(s) in Northern Utah. These estimates will be derived from data of weather- and aquatic monitoring-stations and serve as up-scaled boundary values for collaborating regional-scale climate modelers. Fundamental understanding of the principles of hydrology, evapotranspiration, and soil physics are expected. Programming skills (e.g., matlab, comsol, C) or experience using numerical models (e.g., Hydrus) are preferred. The doctoral student may earn their PhD through either the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) or of Plants, Soils and Climate (PSC) doctoral programs, depending on interest and area of focus. Ideally, candidates should have completed an M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering, Soil Science, or Hydrological Sciences. Also, outstanding candidates with BS degrees and research/writing experience will be considered. The incumbent will be expected to work with an interdisciplinary, cross-institutional research team that includes researchers from Utah State University, the University of Utah, and Brigham Young University. Faculty from these institutions will be likely committee members and potential co-advisors. 
Prospective students should contact Dr. Scott B. Jones (scott.jones@usu.edu) by email for further information about this opportunity and include a current resume and a statement of research interests. The deadline for applications to the Ph.D. program is January 25 for PSC and March 15 for CEE.

About Utah: The Wasatch Front of Northern Utah offers a stunning landscape for work (and play). The Wasatch/Cache National Forest provides unlimited outdoor recreation year-round. Housing costs are lower than the national average, and there are diverse cultural opportunities. Northern Utah is a short trip from the most scenic National Parks in the USA, including Zions, Bryce Canyon, Canyonlands, Arches, Capitol Reef, GrandTeton, Great Basin, and Yellowstone.