Graduate Research Assistantship (PhD.)
in Multi-scale Carbon Cycle Science

The School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine currently has an open graduate research assistantship position, representing an exciting opportunity for a skilled and motivated student to gain experience in – and contribute to – high level science addressing the responses and feedbacks of terrestrial ecosystems to climate change. The student's research will focus on synthesis and integration of newly available datasets across Mexico for use in regional-to-continental scale carbon cycle synthesis and modeling. The analyses will involve evaluation of flux estimates from both inverse- and forward- modeling frameworks against data sets collected from field studies, tower networks, and remote sensing. The project team includes collaborators from the University of Delaware, University of Kansas, Northern Arizona University, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The student will have an opportunity to interact with large-scale, collaborative scientific programs including the Multi-scale Synthesis and Terrestrial Model Intercomparison Project (MsTMIP), the interagency and international North American Carbon Program (NACP), as well as university and government collaborators across Mexico, the U.S. and Canada.

To fill this assistantship, we seek a highly qualified student with a strong quantitative science background, a keen interest in the geospatial aspects of broad-scale ecosystem science, and an eagerness for scientific research. The ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications: a recent M.S. degree in ecology, forestry, or equivalent natural resources discipline, with a computer science or statistics focus (or vice-versa); scientific programming experience; an ability to work productively both independently and as a team member; and a disposition toward quality written and oral communication.

The assistantship position includes a full PhD. stipend, student health insurance, and tuition paid for the graduate program at the University of Maine. The state's flagship campus is located in the town of Orono, which provides a marvelously unique lifestyle as well as access to some of the country's finest, four-season outdoor recreation opportunities.

To apply, send (electronically) a 2-page CV and unofficial college transcripts, along with a cover letter, to:
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