San Jose State University Research Foundation

Position: Post Doctoral Research Associate

DEPARTMENT: Meteorology Department

IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR: Project Director

POSTING DATE: June 15, 2020

CLOSING DATE: Open Until Filled

SALARY: $75,000 - $88,000 annually

BENEFITS: Exceptional benefits for employees and eligible dependents: Company subsidized CalPERS medical selections, 3 PPO's and 7 HMO's; company paid dental and vision insurance for employees and eligible dependents; Life, AD&D, and LTD coverage; paid federal and state holidays; a 403 (b) retirement option with a 7% employer retirement contribution following 1 year of benefited employment, with immediate vesting; vacation accruals and a stand-alone sick leave hours accumulation; and a subsidized post-retirement medical insurance plan for eligible employees.

EXEMPT STATUS: Exempt, Full-Time

GENERAL NATURE OF POSITION:

The Fire Weather Research Laboratory and Department of Meteorology and Climate Science at San José State University are seeking applicants for a post-doctoral position in Wildfire Remote Sensing with a focus on fuel moisture algorithm development using satellite-based products.

The goal of the project is to develop improved tools for monitoring fuel moisture content of live woody and herbaceous fuels in California. The project will validate current techniques used and develop new live fuel moisture content (LFMC) tools to better assess fire danger using state-of-the-science remote sensing data sets. These tools will be developed using new high-resolution data from various satellite products eventually leading to a dataset and methodology to incorporate these tools into new fire behavior modeling systems.

The post-doctoral position is part of the new Wildfire Interdisciplinary Research Center (WIRC) at SJSU and the candidate will interact regularly with the seven faculty associated with the WIRC. The position is available for up to two years based on satisfactory performance in the first year.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conduct research in satellite remote sensing and live fuel moisture of woody and herbaceous fuels using a range of satellite products.
- Develop remote sensing tools for better understanding the wildfire environment and fire danger.
- Organize, analyze, and present data from research.
• Document research by publishing papers in peer-reviewed journals and present technical findings at scientific conferences.
• Collaborate with others in a multidisciplinary team environment to accomplish research goals.
• Perform other duties as assigned.

INTERPERSONAL CONTACTS:
This position will intersect the crossroads of academia and private industry with regular interaction between academia and wildfire scientists at San Diego Gas & Electric, the USFS, and other utility service providers.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES
No direct reports but help guide graduate student research on the topic.

QUALIFICATIONS:
1) Education and Experience
• Recent PhD in atmospheric science, meteorology, remote sensing, or a closely related field
• Experience in satellite remote sensing and data science
• Ability to communicate science with stakeholders
• Ability to develop independent research projects as demonstrated through publication of peer-reviewed literature.
• Proficient verbal and written communication skills to collaborate effectively in a team environment and present and explain technical information.

2) Knowledge, Skills, Abilities Required
• Experience in satellite remote sensing and data science; Experience in satellite remote sensing of live fuel moisture and a background in wildfire meteorology is preferred, but is not required.

3) Complexity of Duties
• Conduct research in satellite remote sensing and live fuel moisture of woody and herbaceous fuels using a range of satellite products.
• Develop remote sensing tools for better understanding the wildfire environment and fire danger.
• Organize, analyze, and present data from research.

4) Physical Requirements
• There may be some field work involved, but this will be non-strenuous.

NOTE: This position description intends to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this job. It is not intended to include all duties and responsibilities. The order in which duties and responsibilities are listed is not significant.

BENEFITS:
The comprehensive benefit package includes:
   a) Ten Health Insurance Plans to choose from, under the umbrella of CalPERS
   b) Dental and vision coverages for employee and their eligible dependents at no cost to monthly cost to employee
   c) Paid Federal & State Holidays (13)
d) Retirement Plan: features both a 403(b) Employee Deferred plan and a 403(b) employer-only contribution plan.
e) Separate vacation accruals and sick leave hours accumulations.
f) Paid Training and Conferences
g) Pay for Performance annual process featuring increases, as appropriate

Please visit http://www.sjsu.edu/researchfoundation/humanresources/healthbenefits/index.html to get more details.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply for this position, an applicant must submit a formal application for employment, as well as a resume and a cover letter. The applicant may do this via e-mail or by regular mail. The formal employment application is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/researchfoundation/open/index.html.

Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, all candidates must submit their application materials via E-mail at foundation-jobs@sjsu.edu. Please use job code PostdocRS in the subject line.

Reasonable Accommodation

The San José State Research Foundation is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation for individuals with physical or mental disabilities in the employment, recruitment, examination, hiring and interviewing processes. If you are a job seeker with a physical or mental disability and require a reasonable accommodation to search, apply, or interview for a job opening or otherwise need a reasonable accommodation during the application and hiring process, please contact us at foundation-jobs@sjsu.edu. In the email message, please indicate your full name, phone number and the type of assistance required. You must not reveal the underlying medical reason for your needed reasonable accommodation or otherwise disclose confidential medical information. You may also call (408) 924-1400 from 8:00am to 5:00pm (PST), Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, to get assistance.

Research Foundation employment is separate and distinct from San Jose State University or State of California employment. Research Foundation employees are not employees of either SJSU or of the state of California.

The San Jose State University Research Foundation (SJSURF) is a non-profit auxiliary of San Jose State University. SJSURF is totally self-supported. The majority of the organization’s funding comes from the federal government, and other public and private entities. With annual revenues totaling over $65 million, programs managed through SJSURF cover a rich diversity of applied research, public services, and educational related activities.

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOUNDATION is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, religion, marital status, registered domestic partner status, age, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, genetic information, sexual orientation, military and veteran status or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. It also prohibits unlawful discrimination based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

A background check (including a criminal records check) must be completed satisfactorily before any candidate can be offered a position with the SJSURF. Failure to satisfactorily complete the background check may affect the application status of applicants or continued employment of current SJSURF employees who apply for the position.