

PhD Research Opportunity, starting Fall 2015
Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Vermont

Position: PhD position in climate change forest biogeochemistry and microbial ecology.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2015

I am seeking a highly motivated PhD student to join the Adair Lab at the University of Vermont in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources (<http://adairlab.weebly.com/>). The student will conduct field and lab-based research focused on the impacts of climate change on forest biogeochemical and microbial processes. While the specific science questions remain open, the project will include USDA and Vermont NSF-EPSCOR objectives addressing how climate change, via its impacts on microbial communities and processes, affect forest nutrient fluxes and the maintenance of forest ecosystem services (e.g. water purification and carbon storage). The student will be part of a larger, integrated research team examining these and other climate change impacts on forest structure, function and resource sustainability.

Responsibilities: Duties will include identifying novel study questions, designing and implementing biogeochemical and microbial sampling and analysis protocols, mathematical and/or ecosystem modeling, analyzing data, supervising interns and undergraduate assistants, and preparing publications and presentations for scientific and lay audiences. This position includes guaranteed funding as a mix of research and teaching assistantships for four years.

Qualifications: The student should demonstrate a strong interest in biogeochemistry, microbial ecology, and mechanistic modeling and have a minimum of a B.S. in ecology, environmental science, plant and soil science or a related field. Although training will be provided, experience with microbial and biogeochemical sampling and analyses is highly desirable. While not required, preference will be given to students with modeling and quantitative skills, including statistical analyses and programming in R.

Application: Interested applicants should submit the following: letter of interest (including relevant research interests), names and contact information of three references, and CV to Dr. Carol Adair. Interested applicants should also supply all application materials by February 1 to the UVM Graduate College as outlined here: <http://www.uvm.edu/rsenr/?Page=graduate-programs.html&SM=gradmenu.html>. When applying, please state your interest in this position in the "Statement of Purpose." <http://www.uvm.edu/rsenr/?Page=graduate-assistantships.html>

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