JOB POSTING – POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW IN URBAN CLIMATE ACTION
Arizona Institutes for Resilience

Areas of Research: urban planning and sustainability; climate action implementation; energy policy; integrated energy planning; applied economics; community resilience

Overview of the position:

In collaboration with the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3), we are offering a UC3 Postdoctoral Fellowship to work on climate action initiatives in the Tucson community, advance coalition-wide activities, and learn from other fellows in the program. The Fellow will be hosted by the Arizona Institutes for Resilience at the University of Arizona, and will be responsible for the project described below. However, the Fellow will also have the opportunity to participate in collaborative, multi-disciplinary projects relevant to the entire UC3 network of more than 20 Research 1 universities. These coalition projects could include sharing best practices across universities and communities, coordination of workshops or events to present project outcomes, visits to other campuses and communities, development of publications and guidebooks, etc.

Suitable candidates will have the opportunity to work with civil society, industry, academia and multiple levels of government to develop strategies aimed at impactful climate action.

Cities around the world are setting very ambitious climate targets, and it has been noted that achieving these targets will require transformational changes in how we live, work, commute, and build. It will take the best efforts of all sectors of society, including the academic sector, to develop and implement the detailed plans, policies and partnerships needed to achieve such goals. This Fellow will be focused on the implementation issues associated with achieving existing municipal climate goals in the City of Tucson. A key focus will be harnessing the power of a collective partnership along these lines between the UA and other key stakeholders, identifying and catalyzing strategies and policy approaches that can support the transformational changes that are required.

We are seeking a Postdoctoral Fellow who brings interdisciplinary expertise in urban sustainability, climate change policy and action, and energy policy analysis, as well as demonstrated experience in multi-stakeholder community engagement processes. The Fellow will have significant responsibility for developing and implementing transdisciplinary partnerships among academic and non-academic partners. They will also have the opportunity to be a lead contributor to peer reviewed publications, reports, conference proceedings, and participate in meetings with academic, civil society, private sector and government partners.

Description of duties:

The candidate, working under the direct supervision of Prof Kathy Jacobs, will be responsible for the following tasks and duties:

- Review climate strategies and priorities of states, cities and communities in the Southwestern US to identify linkages to Tucson’s efforts to meet its goal of carbon neutrality by 2030 and ideas for possible implementation
- Collaboratively develop strategies to assist the community in reducing GHG emissions and manage climate risk; develop tools and processes for assessing costs and benefits
- Expand existing partnerships with the City of Tucson, and other key climate action stakeholders in the community and region.
- Work with researchers, students and staff at the UA to identify relevant on-campus expertise and build collaborative interdisciplinary research activities and proposals
- Help to develop implementation strategies for climate action in the City of Tucson, based on collaborative work and the exploration of good practices in other cities.
- Work with other UC3 postdocs and researchers to explore the opportunity for a collaborative inter-university/community initiative along these lines.
- Assist in preparing funding applications
- Develop impact measurement monitoring and reporting framework to assess progress in meeting the climate goals of the city/community
- Publish findings in relevant scientific journals, attend conferences, etc.

Salary: $52,000 - $60,000/year DOE, plus benefits

Required qualifications:
- PhD degree in related field;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills;
- Experience in working across disciplines and with non-academic partners;
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team; interdisciplinary experience; and project management experience

Preferred experience (at least one of the following areas):

1. Modelling
   a. Frameworks for assessing costs and benefits of alternative options, optimization
   b. Carbon intensity factors and analysis
   c. Life Cycle Analysis
2. Global, national or regional energy policies and economic instruments
3. Urban design and city planning
   a. Resilience and adaptation
   b. Integrated energy planning
   c. Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
   d. Climate action plan implementation
   e. Multi-stakeholder engagement processes

Application instructions

All individuals interested in this position can apply through this link: https://arizona.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/4/home/requisition/4277?c=arizona

Expected start date: on or before July 1, 2021

Term: 1 year with potential for renewal (subject to review of performance);
Normal hours: 40 per week

AIR is committed to providing a welcoming, diverse, and inclusive atmosphere, and to developing a diverse workforce to tackle today’s pressing environmental problems. Applicants representing underrepresented communities are especially encouraged to apply.

About the Institute:
Arizona Institutes for Resilience: Solutions for the Environment and Society (AIR) coordinates interdisciplinary groups of faculty, students and projects across the University of Arizona’s
campus, from climate science to public policy, law, the arts, water resources and beyond. AIR explores and develops solutions with campus and community partners that will serve human and natural communities across the globe. Further, as part of the UAriZona Office of Research Innovation & Impact, AIR builds a robust web of environmental connections across colleges and departments that collectively make up Arizona Environment.

For more information about AIR, visit www.environment.arizona.edu/air