

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

VADOSE ZONE HYDROLOGY IN ARID REGIONS

Nevada's NSF EPSCoR Program "Research Infrastructure for Nevada's Growth - Targeting Research with Uniqueness and Excellence III (RING-TRUE III)" announces a call for a Postdoctoral Fellowship position as part of the research development program, "Scaling Environmental Processes in Heterogeneous Arid Soils" (SEPHAS). With an emphasis on soil science and vadose-zone hydrology, the focus of SEPHAS is to use integrated field, laboratory, and numerical approaches to the study of unsaturated flow, soil biochemistry, flow and solute transport in arid soils, as well as scaling issues on related physical processes. The vision of the SEPHAS program is to stimulate collaboration among Nevada researchers to form nationally competitive teams and develop vertically integrated interdisciplinary approaches to the better understanding of hydrological and biological processes at different scales in arid soils. One goal of offering these postdoctoral fellowships is to promote the development of new interdisciplinary and collaborative research to elevate desert ecology and soil science research in Nevada to a new level of excellence.

The Fellowships provide a direct annual salary of **\$40,000** plus additional funds to cover institutional fringe expenses. The successful applicants will use a new, large-scale lysimeter facility under construction as part of the SEPHAS program (<http://hydro.nevada.edu/sephas>). The postdoctoral fellows also will have access to field sites (e.g. FACE) and data which are part of the Nevada Desert Research Center (http://www.unlv.edu/Climate_Change_Research/). A Ph.D. (or equivalent) in hydrology, soil physics or a related field is required, as well as a background in quantitative methods and numerical modeling. Candidates with quantitative skills and a research background in arid soil and vadose-zone hydrology are encouraged to apply. The positions will be located at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Interested candidates are encouraged to contact Dr. Zhongbo Yu (zhongbo.yu@unlv.edu) or Drs. Michael Young (Michael.young@dri.edu) and Dale Devitt (dev50@clark.nsee.edu) or any other faculty members (<http://hydro.nevada.edu/sephas>) for additional information about the SEPHAS program, related projects, and potential research.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Application Guidelines and Proposal Deadline

Review of applications will begin on Nov. 1, 2007. Applications will be accepted until the fellowship position is filled.

Please note only complete files will be reviewed for funding.

A complete Postdoctoral Fellowship application consists of:

- (a) Application cover letter and names of references
- (b) Curriculum Vitae
- (c) Three letters of recommendation

(a) **Application cover letter.** The applicant shall supply a letter of interest regarding the position. Within the letter, the candidate should describe his/her professional experience and training, specific areas of research interest, and potential contributions to the program goals. At the end of this letter, please provide the names of your three references.

(b) **Curriculum Vitae.**

(c) **Letters of recommendation:** As part of the application, applicants are required to solicit letters from at least three references. The letters must be received electronically directly from the authors to Dr. Zhongbo Yu at zhongbo.yu@unlv.edu. Please inform your references these letters should be received by the application deadline, with each letter providing details explaining the nature of the relationship to the applicant, comments on the applicant's academic potential and prior research experiences, and any other information to enable reviewers to evaluate the application.

Applications will be reviewed and announcements made in November. Employment is expected to begin Jan. 1, 2007.

REQUIRED FORMAT:

All application materials are to be submitted as PDF documents to Dr. Zhongbo Yu at zhongbo.yu@unlv.edu. To submit your application, you MUST follow this format: In the "subject" line of your email, put your last name and first name initial, underscore, the acronym "VADOSEPD", underscore, and the type of document you are sending. So for instance, when Tom Rodriguez submits his cover letter, in the e-mail subject line he would type: (rodriguez_t_VADOSEPD_coverletter). Sending your application materials in ONE email will reduce the chance your application file will be incomplete at the time of the review process, in which case, if Tom Rodriguez was to send his cover letter, and CV as attachments to one e-mail, the e-mail subject line for Tom Rodriguez could read: (rodriguez_t_VADOSEPD_coverletter_CV).

Reporting and other requirements:

Awardees must submit yearly and final reports to SEPHAS program members, Dr. Zhongbo Yu (zhongbo.yu@unlv.edu) or Drs. Michael Young (Michael.young@dir.edu) and Dale Devitt (dev50@clark.nscee.edu). Please provide optional demographic data material to the Nevada EPSCoR office. This form is available at: <http://www.nevada.edu/spo/demodata.html>. This information is provided to NSF for statistical purposes only. Successful applicants are expected to work full-time on their postdoctoral research activities and all Fellowship activities must be completed within 24 months of the start date. All publications and presentations must cite NSFEPSCoR support from the Ring True III Award EPS-0447416.