PhD Research Assistantships Available at Colorado State University (Fall 2016):

Area of Study: Water Economics

Deadlines: Application deadline is February 15, 2016, start date is August 2016.

Apply online: http://graduateschool.colostate.edu/prospective-students/apply/

The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (DARE) at Colorado State University is recruiting up to two PhD students to participate in research projects in the general area of water economics.

Interested students should express the desire to be considered for one or both of these positions in the DARE graduate program application.

For more information on the department, please contact:
Marco Costanigro, Chair of the Graduate Program
(970) 491-6948
marco.costanigro@colostate.edu

Position Descriptions

One position is funded jointly with the US Forest Service will work to develop the next generation of models to project water demand throughout the US in support of the Resource Planning Act (RPA) Assessment (http://www.fs.fed.us/research/rpa/). The RPA Assessment reports the status and trends of the Nation’s renewable natural resources and serves as a guide for US climate policy.

The next position includes work in groundwater policy in the Midwest US. The student will work with a cross-disciplinary team of researchers to develop integrated models of groundwater use and value. Modeling efforts will inform the implementation of policies aimed at optimizing the value of scarce groundwater resources.

Requirements: Formal training in economics (including econometrics and microeconomics) and a demonstrated facility with mathematics and/or quantitative methods is required, but candidates with interdisciplinary backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Previous research experience, excellent written and oral communication, organizational skills, ability to work independently, and some experience are desirable. Candidates must apply to the PhD program in DARE.

Graduate assistantship includes:
- A competitive stipend, including summer months
- Full tuition support
- Full medical insurance

The student will be responsible for required graduate fees. CSU is an EO/EA/AA employer and conducts background checks on all final candidates.
The graduate program in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at CSU
We offer rigorous coursework, coupled with training in applied research and an emphasis on close collaborations between faculty and students. Most of our students are directly involved in grants and projects in cooperation with government agencies and industry stakeholders.

Specific information about the program can be found at
http://dare.agsci.colostate.edu/graduate/graduate-programs/

The research team of supervising faculty includes:

**Chris Goemans**
Chris’ research focuses on the allocation and management of scarce resources, specifically water. Past efforts include studies investigating the impacts associated with water transfers, the relationship between increased climatic variability and the effectiveness of various regional water management schemes, and optimal demand management strategies during periods of drought. More recently his work has dealt with understanding how information affects the decision making of residential water customers, specifically their understanding of their own water use and the rate structures they face. Current research investigates how continued population growth and climate change will affect the management of resources such as water.

**Dale Manning**
Dale’s research uses econometrics and optimization tools to understand the use and value of natural resources, including water, land, fish, firewood, and other energy resources. He is particularly interested in the relationship between natural resources, climate change, and economic development, considering the economic linkages that tie resource value into broader, local economies.

**Jordan Suter**
Jordan’s research primarily addresses issues related to the intersection of land use policy and water resource economics. The research applies the methods of experimental economics as well as spatial modelling to analyze how individuals and groups respond to the incentives generated by regulatory policies and resource characteristics. Current research projects that he is working on analyze the efficacy of land conservation programs, the performance of policies aimed at improving water quality, and the effect of hydrogeologic features on influencing groundwater use and policy outcomes.
About DARE and CSU

DARE centers its research, teaching and outreach activities in defined areas of excellence: agricultural education, agribusiness management and food systems, the economics of water, land, energy and environment, and agricultural, food and resource policy. We are dedicated to, and appreciated for, engaging stakeholders in high-quality disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, as well as the ability to effectively communicate findings to the public and peers. Excellence in teaching and mentoring students is created with thoughtful and innovative curricular design, emphasizing experiential learning where appropriate and fostering student achievement.

Colorado State University is located in Fort Collins, Colorado, approximately 65 miles North of Denver. Fort Collins is at the base of the Rocky Mountain foothills. For more information about living in Fort Collins, Colorado, and the Rocky Mountains see http://www.graduateschool.colostate.edu/prospective-students/living-fort-collins.aspx