Postdoctoral Fellow

PalEON: a PaleoEcological Observatory Network
to assess terrestrial ecosystem models

Post-doctoral position in ecosystem model-data synthesis is available in the Dietze lab at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Duties:

Candidate will be expected to work collaboratively within an interdisciplinary research group of paleoecologists, statisticians, and modelers with the aim of assimilating paleoecological data for northern temperate forests into a suite of regional-scale ecosystem models. The primary responsibility is to coordinate model-data inter-comparison activities and shared data among the modeling teams and to analyze model dynamics and assess model-data fidelity. The secondary responsibility is to help complete the Ecosystem Demography model runs for the model-data inter-comparison. Research questions focus on validating ecosystem models at centennial time-scales, making inference about pre-settlement ecosystem dynamics and biogeochemical cycles, and exploring the sensitivity of models to historical vegetation.

Qualifications:

Minimum qualifications are a doctoral degree in a relevant ecological or environmental science. The ideal candidate would have experience with a number of the following areas: ecosystem models, paleoecological data, Bayesian statistics, R, linux, computer programming, data assimilation, and climate downscaling techniques.

Salary is $35,000-40,000 commensurate with experience and qualifications with to two years of funding available. The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Evaluation of applications is rolling with a preferred start May 2011

Interested applicants are encouraged to send a CV and cover letter with the names and contact information of three references to Melinda LaBorg laborg@igb. uiuc.edu. For more information contact Dr. Michael Dietze mdietze@illinois.edu or visit http://www.life.uiuc.edu/dietze