Climate-Health Integration and Outreach Associate

Position Description
The Southeast Regional Climate Center (SERCC) and the Carolinas Integrated Sciences & Assessments (CISA) program are seeking applicants to fill the position of Climate-Health Integration and Outreach Associate. The position provides an opportunity to develop tailored and relevant climate data and related information on impacts and resilience for policy decision-making by combining the resources of SERCC and CISA. This position, in collaboration with the SERCC-CISA program team, develops and manages projects with the purpose of advancing scientific understanding of climate processes in the Carolinas, improving the assessment of climate-related vulnerabilities and impacts, and developing and communicating information that is timely and relevant for use by decision makers.

The SERCC is one of six regional climate centers in the U.S. and serves as the hub for climate services in the Southeast region. The SERCC mission is to provide timely, high quality, and pertinent climate data and information to public and private users in the region. CISA is one of eleven Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) programs supported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to investigate innovative approaches for integrating climate science into decision-making processes and improve society’s ability to respond to climatic events and stresses. CISA’s core activities center on the intersections of climate with water, coasts, and health. The position is based at SERCC in order to support the development of new approaches in climate services, through the RISA experimental model, and their transition into operations.

Position Summary
The Climate-Health Integration and Outreach Associate provides leadership on applied climate-health research projects and directions that advance scientific understanding of climate processes in the Carolinas and improve the assessment of health-related vulnerabilities and impacts. Specifically, they lead research projects that synthesize and communicate climate health information in insightful and useful ways, based on stakeholder needs. They work closely with personnel from the Southeast Regional Climate Center (SERCC) and the Carolinas Integrated Science and Assessments (CISA) to identify and tailor climate information that is timely and relevant for decision makers across the Carolinas. Among other things, they develop and maintain working relationships with federal, state, and local government agencies, communities, professional associations, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders in the Carolinas working to address climate and health-related issues in the region.

The Outreach Associate collaborates closely with other CISA team members to develop a research and project portfolio that works to increase adaptive capacity in the Carolinas. This includes developing evaluation metrics that are consistent across the CISA program and contributing to CISA research to evaluate the effectiveness of different types of climate-related decision support processes and methods.
Qualifications
Master’s degree in a relevant field is required, Ph.D. preferred.

Desired qualifications include:

- Extensive experience in scientific research, especially in the realm of public - environmental health and climate impacts
- Experience working with public health officials, emergency management, and tribal governments through participatory engagement processes
- Familiarity with the Carolinas and regional environmental and climate-related issues is preferred along with familiarity or experience with the NOAA RISA program or other climate service agencies and organizations
- Experience working with communities and/or decision makers in an outreach capacity
- Experience in writing project proposals and securing grants
- Proficiency in data processing and analysis.
- Excellent verbal and written communications skills, including science translation, and excellent organizational skills are required.

Highly desirable is an ability to effectively communicate complex relationships across different disciplines, especially in the realms of climate and health. Skills in data analysis and statistics are preferred along with experience working with spatial-temporal datasets through the use of geographic information science (GIS) approaches. In addition, the ability to work independently in a complex, interdisciplinary environment, and the ability to travel frequently in the Carolinas and beyond.

Location and Duration
The position will be based at the SERCC office located at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is funded by the Carolinas Integrated Sciences & Assessments program. The position is funded through August 2021 with the possibility of extension beyond that date, pending performance and availability of funds.

Please apply by going to this link: https://unc.peopleadmin.com/postings/159231

Compensation
Compensation includes salary in the range of $45,125 to $60,000 plus benefits commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Application Instructions
Applicants must submit a letter of application, statements of research and outreach interests, vita, and contact information (names, addresses, email, and phone numbers) of four references on-line at https://unc.peopleadmin.com/postings/159231.

The application deadline is May 3, 2019.

For more information, please visit the SERCC website at www.sercc.com and the CISA website at www.cisa.sc.edu.

If you have questions about the position, please contact Dr. Chip Konrad, konrad@unc.edu (Tel: 919-962-3873) at SERCC or Dr. Kirstin Dow, dowk@mailbox.sc.edu (Tel: 803-777-2482) at CISA.
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