



**BROWN**

Institute for the Study of  
Environment and Society

**Position Title:** Postdoctoral Research Associate in Environment & Society

**Location:** Brown University, Providence, RI

### **Position Description**

Brown University's Institute for the Study of Environment and Society (ISES) seeks candidates for one or more distinguished postdoctoral positions in interdisciplinary environmental science. ISES was founded in 2014, building on strength across campus in interdisciplinary study of environmental topics. It includes over 30 Faculty Fellows from 12 Departments across Schools and Divisions at Brown. The postdoctoral fellowship program continues and builds on the Voss Postdoctoral Fellows program previously managed by the Environmental Change Initiative at Brown. ISES organizes its research activities into four themes: Natural Systems, Food and Water, Human Health and Well-Being, and Equity and Governance. Postdoctoral Fellows will be expected to work within one or more of these themes, and to be mentored by two Brown University Faculty, at least one of whom is an ISES Faculty Fellow <http://brown.edu/academics/institute-environment-society/about/people/faculty-fellows>.

Appointments will be in ISES (rather than in a Department) and will have an expected term of two years starting in July 2015 or soon thereafter. Fellows receive a salary of \$50,000, plus benefits and a discretionary fund of \$5,000/year in addition to any research funds that may be directed to the project by mentors.

### **Qualifications**

Requirements for the positions include a Ph.D. in an environmentally-related discipline, the intellectual flexibility to reach across fields, ability to take initiative and work independently, and demonstrated interest in interdisciplinary environmental research. To apply, each candidate must contact two faculty members working in different fields to serve as mentors, work with mentors to develop an independent research project that advances the research interests of both mentors and candidates, and secure a letter of support from both mentors. At least one mentor must be a Faculty Fellow of ISES (<http://brown.edu/academics/institute-environment-society/about/people/faculty-fellows>) and the other must be a regular faculty member of Brown University.

## Application Instructions

To apply, please submit the following items at <http://apply.interfolio.com/25898> by November 1, 2014:

- Cover letter describing your interest in the position and how this position relates to your career goals;
- Current CV;
- Required project proposal (1500 words maximum, excluding references): Proposals will be judged on scientific merit, potential for building cross-disciplinary bridges, and an achievable research plan, given time and budgetary constraints. The project proposal is an essential component of the application package and applications without proposals will not be reviewed. Format is not prescribed, but proposals should include a title and brief abstract as well as addressing the following points:
  - Project background and importance: What is known and what is new about this question? Why does it matter?
  - How does this project fit with your own previous work and your proposed mentors'?
  - Project plan: What will you actually do? Include a timeline or workplan if appropriate. If additional resources will be needed to complete the work, do you have options for funding them?
  - Potential outcomes: What do you see resulting from this project?
  - References (not included in 1500 word limit): What is the basis in the literature for this work?
- Three letters of reference from advisors or colleagues who know the applicant's work well. Letters should describe prior research experience and evidence of applicant's interest, capability, and potential in interdisciplinary environmental research. Referees should submit letters directly through Interfolio, which will supply a direct link when contact information is entered.
- Two letters of support from proposed mentors, describing the mentor's interest in the applicant and the proposed project and evaluating the preparation of this applicant to work effectively in an interdisciplinary environment and complete the proposed work.

## Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

Brown University is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive academic global community; as an EEO/AA employer, Brown considers applicants for employment without regard to, and does not discriminate on the basis of, gender, race, protected veteran status, disability, or any other legally protected status.