SESYNC Feedbacks
News from the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center

Jenny Zambrano awarded Harper Prize

Congratulations to Jenny Zambrano for winning the British Ecological Society's John L Harper Early Career Researcher Award for her work as a SESYNC postdoctoral fellow! She was awarded the prize for her paper Neighbourhood defence gene similarity effects on tree performance: a community transcriptomic approach.

Read the complete BES announcement.

Request for Proposals

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) requests proposals for collaborative and interdisciplinary team-based research projects.

Proposals are invited for synthesis projects focused on tools, methods, and other practices applicable to actionable team research on socio-environmental problems.

Pursuits

Application Deadline: May 15, 2018

Teams applying as a Pursuit are invited to apply under the following three Themes:

- Water, People, and Ecosystems
- Social and Environmental Dimensions of the Food-Energy-Water Nexus
- Sudden or Unexpected Events: Environmental Recovery, Reorganization or Restoration

We recognize that there are many potential projects with great applicability to socio-environmental problems that fall outside of these three Themes. Accordingly, SESYNC offers a limited number of opportunities for exciting and creative Pursuits that are not explicitly tied to a Theme (**socio-environmental problem-focused**).

To learn more and apply, please **visit our website**.

Workshops

Application Deadline: May 15, 2018

Teams interested in applying for a Workshop, a single meeting of up to ~25 participants, may focus on a broad topic or a set of related topics relevant to socio-environmental synthesis. Workshops may summarize and/or synthesize

the state of the topic and/or identify future directions that have the potential to lead to a larger synthesis effort. Workshop applications are not required to fall under a Theme.

To learn more and apply, please **visit our website**.

Graduate Pursuits

Application Deadline: May 15, 2018

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) in Annapolis, MD invites proposals from highly qualified graduate students interested in conducting collaborative, socio-environmental synthesis research (i.e. "Graduate Pursuits").

Graduate Pursuits are supported for a period of 18 months. Such support centers around 3-4 team meetings at SESYNC, but also includes a suite of services ranging from team facilitation to computational and cyber infrastructure resources to science communication.

To learn more and apply, please **visit our website**.

Accepting Applications for Summer Short Course

Summer Institute on Cyberinfrastructure for Socio-Environmental Synthesis

Application Deadline: April 27, 2018

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) invites applications to a short course on data and coding skills for socio-environmental synthesis. The 5th annual Summer Institute will be held **July 24 - 27, 2018** at SESYNC in Annapolis, Maryland. The short course will combine lectures, hands-on computer labs, and project consultation designed to accelerate the adoption of cyber resources for all phases of data-driven research and dissemination. Through this short course, participants should expect to:

- learn new scientific computing skills
- overcome project hurdles
- gain coding confidence
- have fun

To learn more and apply, please **visit our website**.

Job Opportunity

Data Scientist

Application Deadline: May 25, 2018

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center seeks a Data Scientist to join the cyberinfrastructure (CI) team in supporting collaborative, computational, and data-driven socio-environmental research. Our supported science teams and postdoctoral fellows come from many different disciplines and synthesize diverse models and data sets to answer large-scale questions at the intersection of humans and the environment. The Data Scientist will work closely with the CI team to assist scientists in performing data and model syntheses.

To learn more and apply, please **visit our website**.

SESYNC Approves Twelve New Projects

SESYNC recently approved support for twelve new projects that aim to tackle a wide range of socio-environmental topics, including:

Workshop:

Wicked problems in food system solutions	PIs:	Verena Seufert, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology Graham MacDonald, McGill University

Foundation:

If the past teaches, what does the future learn?	PIs:	Carole Crumley, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Carrie Hritz, SESYNC Christian Isendahl, University of Gothenburg

Pursuits:

Diverse pathways to nourishment: Understanding how agricultural biodiversity enhances food security and nutrition	PIs:	Alder Keleman Saxena, Aarhus University Garrett Graddy-Lovelace, American University
Linkages of agrobiodiversity in urban systems and food-producing landscapes	PIs:	Karl Zimmerer, Pennsylvania State University Karen C. Seto, Yale University
Planning for sustainable water futures in sub-Saharan Africa in the context of the SDGs	PIs:	Charles Vorosmarty, The City College of New York David Hole, Conservation International
Understanding dynamic environmental and socio-economic interactions in food systems to support decision-making towards a sustainable and resilient agriculture	PIs:	Xin Zhang, UMCES Kimberly Pfeifer, Oxfam America Eric Davidson, UMCES
Soil as a social ecological feedback: Mapping the social and ecological processes for	PIs:	Gabrielle Roesch-McNally, USDA

agroecosystem resilience in the era of climate change	Andrea Basche, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Social-ecological drivers of change over time in urban woodlands	PIs: Lea Johnson, University of Maryland Michelle Johnson, US Forest Service
Global socioeconomic drivers of insect invasions	PIs: Andrew Liebhold, US Forest Service Michael Springborn, University of California-Davis
Synergistic interactions of environmental degradation, socio-economic development and infectious disease dynamics in the Amazon region	PIs: Andres Baeza, Arizona State University Mercedes Pascual, University of Chicago
Modeling risk perception, vector-borne diseases, and environmental integrity: Understanding environmental impacts of policy decisions for vector control	PI: Nina Fefferman, University of Tennessee
Microbial disease dynamics, ecosystem processes, and human eutrophication of the environment	PI: Elizabeth Borer, University of Minnesota

SESYNC Publications

Tracking the pulse of the Earth's fresh waters. Published in *Nature Sustainability* by former SESYNC postdoc Albert Ruhi, Mathis L. Messager and Julian D. Olden. Check out their **web application** that highlights the strength of stream gages and the importance of longterm data.

Pathogen spillover during land conversion. Published in *Ecology Letters* by Christina Faust and colleagues as part of the Venture, *Land Use Change & Infectious Diseases*.

Using social media to understand drivers of urban park visitation in the Twin Cities, MN. Published in *Landscape and Urban Planning* by Marie Donahue and colleagues as part of the Pursuit, *Valuing Lake Water Quality*.

Sociohydrological impacts of water conservation under anthropogenic drought in Austin, Texas (USA). Published in *Water Resources Research* by Betsy Breyer, Samuel Zipper, and Jiangxiao Qiu as part of the Graduate Pursuit, *Resilience to Water Hazards*.

GET MORE SESYNC