

Happy Friday everyone – please see a short digest of the news (just two items) below.

Dr. Amir Haghverdi from the University of California, Riverside is seeking a postdoc to work on site-specific variable rate irrigation management and is seeking someone with experience including irrigation engineering and developing decision support tools. Please see the position description attached.

From **Dr. Chantal Donnelly** | Team Leader, Water Investigations, Bureau of Meteorology – please see this announcement of a MODSIM workshop on the Wednesday

Are you interesting in national scale hydrological modelling across the water balance? The Bureau of Meteorology will be holding a training session on the Australian Water Resource Assessment Community Modelling System (AWRA-CMS) on the Wednesday of MODSIM. The AWRA-CMS underpins the Bureau of Meteorology's operational national landscape water balance information (www.bom.gov.au/water/landscape). The AWRA-CMS was developed in close collaboration with CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology under the WIRADA partnership.

This one day of training is delivered in two parts:

- (a) Understand the Australian Landscape Water Balance website, underlying model and data: targeting potential users of AWRA data and
- (b) Understand and use the AWRA Community modelling system, AWRA-CMS: targeting those who are interested in being able to run and adapt the AWRA-L model to their own purposes. (ideally together with part a)

For more information on these workshops and how you can register, please go to the MODSIM website: <https://mssanz.org.au/modsim2019/workshops.html>

Postdoctoral Researcher Position in Precision Agriculture: Site-specific Variable Rate Irrigation Management

The UCRWATER Lab (ucrwater.com) in the Environmental Sciences Department at the University of California Riverside invites qualified highly motivated candidates to apply for a postdoctoral research associate position in site-specific irrigation management. This is a one-year appointment with possible extension depending on funding and performance. The successful candidate will be involved in a USDA funded project aiming at enhancing agricultural water management in southern California deserts by improving current uniformly applied irrigation by mainstream growers and creating a pathway toward adoption of emerging site-specific variable rate irrigation technologies in the future. The main objective for this position is to develop decision support tools for the pre-adoption assessment and management of site-specific irrigation systems.

Qualifications:

- Ph.D. (received within the past five years from an accredited college or university) in Irrigation Engineering, Biosystems Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Agronomy or other related disciplines;
- Experience in developing decision support tools, (i.e., smartphone apps, computer software packages, web-based tools, graphical user interfaces);
- Strong programming skills with scripting languages such as Python, Matlab, Java;
- Experience with statistical analyses of geospatial and remote sensing data using ARGIS, ENVI or other software packages;
- Experience with machine learning algorithms and statistical modeling techniques such as regression, *k*-means, neural networks;
- Demonstrated record of high-quality publications;
Experience working in a collaborative research environment.

Expectations:

The successful candidate is expected to:

- Publish research findings in international peer-reviewed journals, and present research findings in scientific conferences and local meetings;
- Generate regular update reports, and assist in grant proposal writing;

- Assist with field data collection, lab experiments, and extension/outreach activities;
- Work independently and in collaboration with faculty/staff and students in the Environmental Sciences Department, farm advisors, stakeholders, and producers.

Application:

Applications or informal inquiries can be sent to Dr. Amir Haghverdi (amirh@ucr.edu) with USDA POSTDOC as the subject line. Applications packages should contain the following contents:

- One-page cover letter describing the applicant's research experiences and interests;
- Curriculum vitae;
- Names, addresses, emails, and phone numbers for three references.

About University of California, Riverside:

UCR is a world-class research university located on nearly 1,200 acres near Box Springs Mountain in the Heart of Inland Southern California. UCR is ranked 35th among top public universities (US News and World Report 2018-19) and is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer with a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of excellence and diversity among its faculty and staff. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.