Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship, Biological and Environmental Sciences and Science Communication, University of Rhode Island

An interdisciplinary Ph.D. graduate assistantship is available at the University of Rhode Island (URI) that combines original research in science communication and biological or environmental sciences. The Ph.D. student will contribute to an interdisciplinary, NSF-funded training program in graduate science writing at URI. Co-PIs on the NSF project are Dr. Ingrid Lofgren (Nutrition & Food Sciences), Dr. Caroline Gottschalk Druschke (Natural Resources Science and Writing & Rhetoric), Dr. Nancy Karraker (Natural Resources Science), Dr. Scott McWilliams (Natural Resources Science) and Dr. Nedra Reynolds (Writing & Rhetoric). The broader research topic pursued by the Ph.D. student is flexible but should fall within the expertise of at least one faculty mentor in the Biological & Environmental Sciences (BES) graduate program (http://web.uri.edu/cels-gradprograms/bes/). Strong candidates will be able to articulate how their research program will effectively combine original research in biological or environmental sciences and science communication education.

Qualifications: Applicants must have completed undergraduate and Masters degrees (M.Sc. or M.A.) that included research or training in biological or environmental sciences and science communication/writing, must have earned at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA, must have taken the GRE, and must have strong oral and written communication skills. Students whose first language is not English must exceed minimum TOEFL scores (>79). Candidates with experience working in interdisciplinary, collaborative teams of faculty and students are preferred.

We encourage applications from underrepresented groups, including women, minorities, and persons with disabilities. Graduate student training within the College of the Environment and Life Sciences (http://web.uri.edu/cels/) is designed to provide students with a strong, interdisciplinary and integrative learning environment. Academic year stipend, tuition and health insurance are paid. Starting date is September 2016.

To apply submit the following by email: a letter stating your qualifications and research interests, CV, unofficial copies of college transcripts and GRE scores, and contact information for three references (not letters) by no later than 10 January 2016 (early application is encouraged) to Dr. Ingrid Lofgren, Department of Nutrition & Food Sciences, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881 (401-874-5706; ingridlofgren@uri.edu). Materials should be combined into a single Word or PDF document. In your application materials, please identify at least one BES faculty mentor whom you are interested in working with on your research project(s). Prior to applying, you should correspond with this faculty mentor about your research interests and the available opportunities to work in their research group, mentioning this specific graduate assistantship.

Selected candidates will be asked to apply to the URI Graduate School via the online application process described here: http://web.uri.edu/graduate-school/apply/ - early application is encouraged.