Position Announcement:

DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CENTER FOR ECOLOGICAL ANALYSIS AND SYNTHESIS

Applications and nominations are invited for the position of Director of the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, a research center at the University of California, Santa Barbara. The Center is supported by the National Science Foundation, matching funds from the University of California and the Santa Barbara campus, and private entities.

The Center promotes collaborative research on fundamental questions in ecology and many adjacent disciplines by supporting visiting scientists in Working Groups (~500 scientists/year) and resident sabbatical (6/year) and postdoctoral associates (~18/year). The Center also has a large research and applications project in informatics and a Conservation and Resource Management Program.

The Director has overall responsibility for running the Center, with the aid of a Deputy Director and management and computing staff. The Director reports annually to NSF and is advised by a Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). To help the Director maintain an active research program, resources and administrative support are provided.

The Director provides scientific leadership and fosters an environment that inspires collaboration. The Director should have a clear and imaginative scientific vision that serves the larger scientific community, receptiveness to alternative scientific views, an understanding of the key role that technology plays in fostering collaborative and synthetic science, and an unwavering commitment to the highest possible quality research. The Director should be an outstanding ecologist with an enviable research record, demonstrated organizational and management skills, good interpersonal skills and fully articulated commitment to the goals of the
Center. Experience with various funding sources, including NSF, would be advantageous, as would an appreciation of conservation and resource management issues and ecological informatics.

UCSB recognizes that the Director will likely want to sustain an academic career. Therefore, subject to approval by the relevant disciplinary department, and provided the successful candidate meets the University's criteria for scholarly excellence, the University will appoint the successful candidate to a permanent tenured faculty position, if the appointee so desires. Evaluation of candidates and selection of the Director will be done by UCSB faculty, NCEAS staff members, and several external representatives familiar with the Center; the final decision requires NSF approval.

Applications and nominations should be submitted electronically to NCEAS_search@msi.ucsb.edu and will be accepted until April 16th or until the position is filled. Applications should include a letter of interest, CV, and names of three people who have agreed to provide letters of recommendation. The letter of interest should include a vision statement for the Center and the applicant’s career goals. For information about the search, contact Steve Gaines, Search Committee Chair (805) 893-3764

The Center is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community through research, teaching and service.

UCSB is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer