UC Davis Post-Doctoral Position in Computational Social Science, Network Science and Sustainable Agriculture

**Position Description**
The UC Davis Department of Environmental Science and Policy seeks a post-doctoral fellow in *Computational Social Science, Networks, and Sustainable Agriculture*. The position will be for one year residence with possible second year renewal depending on funding. The position will begin in Fall 2014, or as soon as possible after that time. Salary ranges from $50,000 to $54,000 annually depending on experience. Further information about this project, including the full grant proposal, a copy of this announcement, and a summary for practitioners, can be found at this link: http://environmentalpolicy.ucdavis.edu/project/extension-30-knowledge-networks-sustainable-agriculture

The project involves gathering and analyzing online communication and social media data (e.g.; Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, blogs, websites) from the knowledge network of individuals involved with sustainable agriculture in California. We seek to understand the structure, dynamics, and function of online networks for communicating agricultural and environmental knowledge. Sustainable agriculture provides an excellent research site for studying social movements, the social definition of debated concepts, how networks respond to shocks, the relationship between online knowledge and experiential learning, and other important question in network and computational social science. The post-doctoral researcher may adapt their own research questions to this project.

The computational social science aspect of the project will be complemented by online surveys of the people in these networks, along with analysis of mental models of sustainable agriculture. The project has important applied results given the emergence of sustainable agriculture in California, and the increasing use of online communication as a strategy for education and outreach.

The post-doctoral fellow will be a member of Dr. Mark Lubell's Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior and housed in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy. The post-doc will have opportunities to participate in other network science projects on sustainable agriculture, water management, and climate change. The lab has a long history of work on social and policy networks in environmental and agricultural policy.

**Qualifications**
Applicants should be recent recipients of a doctoral degree, with demonstrated interest and publication ability in computational social science, network science, and the analysis of large datasets of online communication. They should be experts in gathering data from internet sources, along with statistical and network analysis in R and other appropriate software. Interest in sustainable agriculture is preferred but not required. The position is open with respect to academic discipline, and could include computer science, network science, decision theory, economics, political science, sociology, or other appropriate social science training.

**Application Process**
Please notify Dr. Mark Lubell (mnlubell@ucdavis.edu) as soon as possible if you intend to apply, and send full applications electronically by September 1, 2014. Applications received by this date will be given first consideration, although we will continue to accept applications after that date. Applications should include a CV, letter describing research interests and background as applied to this project, examples of any relevant publications, and contact information for three references. Top candidates will be interviewed by SKYPE or phone with possibility of campus visit, and asked to supply letters of reference.

**UC Davis Notifications**
The University of California, Davis, is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer with a strong institutional commitment to the development of a climate that supports equality of opportunity and respect for differences. UC Davis is a smoke and tobacco free campus effective January 1, 2014. Smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of unregulated nicotine products (e-cigarettes) will be strictly prohibited on any UC Davis owned or leased property, indoors and outdoors, including parking lots and residential space.