

Dear GLP network members,

This is just a very short update to let you know/remind you about 3 events that will happen soon and where GLP SSC members are involved in the organization.

Additionally there is some information on two job announcements that might be relevant for the GLP network.

Meetings/Conferences/Workshops

1) We would like to make you aware of the **AGU session on Ecological Thresholds**, session B30 titled: Understanding Ecosystem Thresholds in Global Change.

<http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm07/?content=search&show=detail&sessid=422> . The conveners are **Dennis Ojima**, Tony Janetos, Claudia Nierenberg, and Arianne deBremond. The session is planned for the AGU Fall Meeting of 10-14 December 2007 in San Francisco.

Consider submitting an abstract for this multidisciplinary session at the AGU website

<http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm07/?content=program>><http://submissions3.agu.org/submission/entrance.asp> Note that the deadline for abstract submission is September 6th.

Session description:

Ecosystem dynamics can often be altered by non-linear events such as fires, pest outbreaks, or storm events. Current climate change trends are resulting in a number of thresholds affecting ecosystems in marine, freshwater, and terrestrial systems in challenging ways. Recent analysis of climate related ecological thresholds associated with increased seasonal warming, altered precipitation patterns, and acidification of the oceans suggest that ecosystem have exceeded natural thresholds and that ecosystems are less able to cope with these changes. Recent studies have evaluated climate relationships associated with pest outbreaks, coral and forest die-offs, and altered biotic interactions and have identified critical climate change-ecosystem thresholds. These cases suggest that under transitional climate change, ecosystem thresholds are being attained due to climate variability and extreme events appear to be more frequent. Appropriate natural resource management strategies and strategies for monitoring climate signals and ecosystem responses are needed in response to our increased scientific understanding.

In the face of mounting evidence of the biological and ecological consequences of climate change, and of the possibility that changes to ecosystems may in fact be rapid, large, and sometimes irreversible (i.e. there may be thresholds that, once crossed, will present serious coping challenges to humans), policy makers and resource managers are confronted with the need to develop ways to proceed with decision-making in the realms of both mitigation and adaptation, despite the many uncertainties associated with thresholds.

2) **Conference on the Science and Education of Land Use: A transatlantic, multidisciplinary and comparative approach**, Washington, DC, USA, 24-26 of September. SSC members Tom Veldkamp is on the organizing committee and Richard Aspinall is giving a presentation.

<http://www.nercrd.psu.edu/TALUC>

3) During the Annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America, GLP SSC member Dennis Ojima has convened a special panel discussion on **Opportunities in International Research** (*International*

connections: *Advantages, opportunities, and challenges to international research in ecology*). The panel includes Hal Mooney, Osvaldo Sala, Ian Noble, Juan Jarmestro and Dennis Ojima. Dennis will highlight global change studies using GLP and START as 2 main entry points for ESA members.

<http://eco.confex.com/eco/2007/techprogram/S1913.HTM>

Job Announcements

MASSACHUSETTS, WORCESTER 01610. **Clark University. Tenure-track position** starting August 2008. Assistant Professor. PhD required at time of appointment. Clark's School of Geography seeks a scholar with expertise in Earth Systems Science (ESS) linked to one of our three research foci: GIScience, Nature-Society Studies, and Globalization, Cities, and Development (see <http://www.clarku.edu/departments/geography/>). We seek a faculty member to join our growing ESS concentration in the Environmental Science major at Clark, and whose research interests link systematically to one or more of geography's graduate-level foci. Applicants are expected to engage in cutting edge scholarship in integrated environmental science and to be committed to securing extramural funding and team-based activities to support our research program. All facets of ESS will be considered. Examples of linkages to our research foci include geoscience and land degradation, climate change and ecological processes, and biodiversity and urban ecology. Strong undergraduate and graduate teaching, advising, and mentoring are required.

Send CV, statements about current and future [1] research program and [2] teaching interests and philosophy, and contact information for three references to Ms. Jean Heffernan, School of Geography, Clark University, 950 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01610. Review of applications commences October 15, 2007. AA/EOE Minorities and Women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Prof. Mark Rounsevell makes you aware of a relevant academic position in his new team at the University of Edinburgh for a **Senior Lecturer in the human dimensions of Environmental Change**. Further details can be found through the following web link:

http://www.jobs.ed.ac.uk/vacancies/index.cfm?fuseaction=vacancies.detail&vacancy_ref=3007693&go=GO

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