Postdoctoral Fellow Position in:
Governance and climate change adaptation

Expressions of interest are welcome from qualified individuals for a two-year (renewable after one year) postdoctoral fellowship in coastal-marine governance and climate change adaptation. The successful candidate will be expected to take a significant role in the activities of the Governance Working Group of the Partnership for Canada-Caribbean Community Climate Change Adaptation (ParCA). The main goal of ParCA is to integrate scientific and local knowledge from comparative “learning sites” (Jamaica, Tobago, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island) to understand the multi-scale socioeconomic, governance and environmental conditions that shape vulnerability and capacity to adapt to climate change within and between communities. For details on the ParCA project, see below and visit: http://parca.uwaterloo.ca/

As a core member of the governance working group, the postdoctoral fellow will:
1. Undertake limited site-specific research on governance issues in the Canadian learning sites, with an emphasis on coastal resource management and integrated management;
2. Synthesize and integrate data and insights on coastal-marine governance and climate change adaptation across the four ParCA learning sites;
3. Implement a meta-analysis of multi-level governance and climate change adaptation, through the compilation and analysis of a diverse data set of community-level case studies, to inform ParCA implementation and situate insights from ParCA research in a wider context;
4. Lead and/or contribute to the dissemination of research through academic (e.g., journals, conferences) and non-academic (e.g., social media / blogs, public lectures) channels; and
5. Engage in collaborative and constructive ways with ParCA partners, faculty and graduate students.

The postdoctoral fellow will be based at Saint Mary’s University, with opportunity for periods of residency at the University of Waterloo, and will be co-supervised by Dr. Anthony Charles (http://smu.ca/~charles) and Dr. Derek Armitage (http://ecgg.uwaterloo.ca).

ELIGIBILITY. Applicants must have successfully completed, or be within three months of completing, a doctoral degree in an area relevant to the research requirements and expectations noted above - a social science or interdisciplinary PhD. Evidence of related professional experience in the area of climate change adaptation and/or environmental policy will be an asset. Applicants must have excellent written and verbal communication skills in English, with capability to communicate with those in various disciplines and in government, communities and the private sector. The capability to work in a self-directed manner and in interdisciplinary teams is crucial, as are excellent multi-tasking skills.

HOW TO APPLY. Applications should be sent via email to John Abraham (ccrn@smu.ca). When applying please include ‘ParCA Governance PDF’ as the subject in the email. The following should be included in your application: a current Curriculum Vitae; a covering letter including education, qualifications and professional experience relevant to the position; and full contact details for three referees. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis, but the first assessment of applications will begin July 1, 2013. The expected start date is August or September 2013.

ParCA is a partnership of Caribbean organizations (the CARIBSAVE Partnership and the University of the West Indies) and Canadian universities (Waterloo, PEI and Saint Mary’s). We work in collaboration with fishery groups, coastal communities and local partners to identify vulnerabilities and exposures to climate change, develop adaptation strategies, and to assess strategies and arrangements for more adaptive policy and governance arrangements. ParCA is funded through the International Research Initiative on Adaptation to Climate Change (IRIACC), a collaboration of IDRC, CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC.