

# COLLABORATING MENTORS FOR SESYNC POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS 2017

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) seeks Collaborating Mentors interested in mentoring incoming SESYNC Postdoctoral Fellows and co-developing socio-environmental synthesis research projects with them. The mentor may be affiliated with any organization or institution, and we welcome mentors from universities, NGOs, government agencies, and other research institutions. Synthesis is a research approach that accelerates knowledge production by distilling or integrating existing data, ideas, theories, and methods to draw more reliable or generalizable conclusions and to reveal novel areas of study. Socio-environmental synthesis often involves merging large and/or heterogeneous data sets from multiple sources, researchers, or fields of inquiry, as well as critical analysis in evaluating arguments and interpreting evidence. It can employ a diverse array of theoretical and methodological approaches. Regardless of approach, fellows' projects take advantage of existing data/information; **SESYNC does not fund Fellows to collect new field or survey data.** Priority will be given to projects that have the potential to advance understanding of socio-environmental systems, but the information synthesized may be primarily social or environmental in nature, or some mix. For more information about the SESYNC Postdoctoral Fellowships, visit: <http://sesync.us/postdoc2017>.

**Collaborating Mentor Roles:** Mentors are expected to work closely with the Postdoctoral Fellow on the proposed project for a period of two years beginning August 2017 and to provide mentorship on the synthesis research. **However, the Fellow will lead development of the proposed project and implementation of the research.** Postdoctoral Fellows will be funded by SESYNC and located in Annapolis, Maryland. They are expected to meet in person with their Mentor at least twice per year; funds will be provided for Fellows to visit Mentors at their home institutions and vice versa.

## Applying to be a Mentor

Potential Mentors should submit the following, which will be shared with pre-screened prospective applicants via a Mentor Registry (one for Immersion Fellowship applicants, and one for SESYNC-LTER Fellowship applicants.)

- A **brief** description of areas of interest and potential ideas for collaborative socio-environmental synthesis projects (1-page max. These should be general ideas, not detailed descriptions),
- Link(s) to potential Mentor's professional website and, if relevant, LTER site (LTER affiliation is not a requirement for LTER focused projects),
- A CV,
- A short bio (around 200 words), and
- A brief statement (500 words) on expectations for the proposed collaboration, including expectations of the Postdoctoral Fellow and thoughts on facilitating a productive mentoring relationship.

## Deadlines

**Collaborating Mentor application deadline:** October 24, 2016, 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). This is a rolling deadline; **please submit applications as soon as possible.**

**Collaborating Mentor selection and commitment deadline:** November 14, 2016, 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

**Fellowship application deadline:** December 5, 2016, 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

**Complete Program Details:** Please visit <http://sesync.us/mentors> for additional information

