Postdoctoral Research Associates/Senior Research Associates (Up to 3 positions)

UNSW Climate Change Research Centre

Salary Level A/B A$71,250 – A$94,344 per year, plus 17% employer superannuation plus leave loading.

Applications are invited for up to three postdoctoral research associates to work on a long-term project investigating future risks associated with surface ocean warming: including impacts on climate, rainfall, carbon uptake, sea level, and ocean circulation. This includes impacts on the ocean’s thermohaline circulation, the large-scale lateral ocean circulation, and circulation associated with ocean-atmosphere modes such as the El Niño / Southern Oscillation (ENSO). This research project is supported by Professor Matthew England’s recently awarded ARC Laureate Fellowship. The project aims to quantify some of the most significant risks associated with ocean surface warming. This includes, in particular, the impacts of surface warming on climate modes such as ENSO and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), regional rainfall change, ocean carbon uptake, sea level rise and future ocean circulation. This will include evaluating dynamical processes and coupled ocean-atmosphere feedback mechanisms in observations and within global climate models. Another area of interest is the impact of ocean warming on properties within the surface mixed layer and, in turn, the physics and vigor of the ocean’s thermohaline circulation.

These are full time positions. The positions are available for a period ranging from 2 to 5 years, with the successful candidates able to negotiate the contract duration depending on career aspirations and opportunities. A shorter contract may also be negotiated for candidates interested in a brief research secondment to UNSW CCRC to work on this project. For all three positions there is scope for the successful candidates to shape a role that suits their particular strengths, background and interests.

PhD student scholarships are also being advertised (see below) to recruit outstanding graduate students to work on the project. Successful postdoctoral research fellows may have opportunities to work with or jointly supervise these PhD students.

Applicants should systematically address the selection criteria in their application. Due date for applications is 30 November 2010. For the full information pack and application instructions see http://www.hr.unsw.edu.au/services/recruitment/jobs/29101004.html

For further information, contact Matthew England on (61 2) 9385 7065 or m.england@unsw.edu.au

Further details of the CCRC, its activities and research staff can be viewed at www.ccrc.unsw.edu.au and http://web.science.unsw.edu.au/~matthew/