Ph.D. Student Assistantship in Carbon Cycling in Soils

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Environmental Science and Technology at the University of Maryland seeks a PhD student interested in carbon cycling, transformations, and transport in crop production systems. A competitive assistantship with full tuition waiver will be offered to the selected candidate.

POSITION SUMMARY: The selected student will lead a project investigating carbon cycling, transformation, and transport in Maryland soils that represent and simulate field practices typical of past, present, and future farming. The selected student for this position will be responsible for conducting all aspects of field research including soil sampling with deep soil corers, collecting soil and water samples from various sites in Maryland, various chemical, isotopic, and spectroscopic analyses in soil and water samples, interacting with stakeholders, writing reports, delivering presentations, and publishing data in peer-reviewed outlets.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATION: An M.S. in soil science, agronomy, earth science, geology, geochemistry, environmental science, or related discipline, with a strong background of coursework in soil science. Candidates possessing education, training, publications, and skill in theory and application of stable isotopes of carbon and spectroscopic approaches would be preferred. Candidate must have a valid driver license.

APPLICATION: Please send a cover letter outlining your interest and qualification for the position and current resume to Dr. Gurpal Toor at gstoor@umd.edu. Position is available immediately and candidates starting in Summer 2019 or Fall 2019 would be preferred.

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION: The Department of Environmental Science and Technology has 26 faculty with expertise in soil science, ecology, and ecological engineering and has the highest number of undergraduate students in the College of Agricultural and Natural Resources. The departmental faculty are nationally and internationally recognized for their work on agricultural and environmental issues. The faculty in the department are strategically spread across four cross-disciplinary themes, including soil and watershed science, wetland science, ecological technology design, and ecosystem health and natural resources management. For additional information, see the website at www.enst.umd.edu

CAMPUS/COLLEGE INFORMATION: Founded in 1856, University of Maryland, College Park is the flagship institution in the University System of Maryland. Our 1,250-acre College Park campus is just minutes away from Washington, D.C., and the nexus of the nation’s legislative, executive, and judicial centers of power. This unique proximity to business and technology leaders, federal departments and agencies, and a myriad of research entities, embassies, think tanks, cultural centers, and non-profit organizations is simply unparalleled. Synergistic opportunities for our faculty and students abound and are virtually limitless in the nation’s capital and surrounding areas. The University has a diverse community of 39,000 students, 9,000 faculty and staff, and 352,000 alumni; all dedicated to the pursuit of Fearless Ideas. Our faculty includes 3 Nobel laureates, 2 Pulitzer Prize winners, 3 Emmy winners, and 2 Tony winners. The University is committed to attracting and retaining outstanding and diverse faculty and staff that will enhance our stature of preeminence in our three missions of teaching, scholarship, and full engagement in our community, the state of Maryland, and in the world. In addition to the renowned research enterprise and programs in academics, arts, and athletics, the university is committed to social entrepreneurship as the nation’s first “Do Good” campus. For additional information, see the website at www.umd.edu