



## **Position Announcement: PhD Student for Global Change Project on the Tibetan Plateau**

**Announcement:** I am seeking a highly motivated PhD student to participate in an NSF funded interdisciplinary study of ecosystem and herder vulnerability to extreme weather events (heavy spring snowstorms) on the Tibetan Plateau. The PhD student will establish and conduct a snow manipulation and grazing experiment in Tibet, conduct observational sampling of vegetation and soils, including the use of natural isotopic analysis. The student will primarily be responsible for the ecological component of this project, but will also be expected to collaborate with social scientists on the project, and to work with modelers who are developing a coupled ecosystem-household decision-making model.

**Field Working/Living Conditions:** This is a beautiful and fascinating part of the world. However, it can also be a physically difficult and uncomfortable place to work. The candidate will be working in very remote regions where medical care, people who speak English, familiar food, and the ‘comforts of home’ are very far away. S/he will be traveling on rugged, dirt roads. S/he will be working at high elevations (from 3,400-4,500m) under often cold and windy conditions (but sometimes in the hot sun without shade). S/he will be expected to spend several months per year in the field.

**Technical Qualifications:** The PhD candidate should be familiar with plant ecology, ecosystem ecology, and/or biogeochemistry. Experience working with natural abundance isotopes is advantageous as is knowledge of either Mandarin Chinese or Tibetan languages. If the candidate does not know Chinese or Tibetan, s/he should be willing to take a class in Mandarin Chinese.

**Environmental/Cultural Qualifications:** Experience working/living in remote mountainous regions, in developing countries, or in an international setting is a plus, but is not required.

**Personal Qualifications:** This is a really exciting and unique experience for a PhD candidate. However, it requires an extreme amount of dedication, hard work, focus, and patience. The candidate should be able to work independently for months at a time. A strong interest in and respect for Tibetan and Chinese culture is required.

**How to Apply:** To apply for this position, please email the following to [jklein@cnr.colostate.edu](mailto:jklein@cnr.colostate.edu): (1) your CV (including GRE scores and percentiles); (2) a 1-2 page description of your research interests and ideas; please also describe your technical, environmental/cultural, and personal qualifications for this position; (3) contact information for three references.

**Application Deadline:** Applications will be considered until the position is filled.

**Starting Date:** A starting date of January 2008 or earlier is ideal. However, students who can join this project in the summer or fall of 2008 are also encouraged to apply.