

Fall 2021/Spring 2022
USDA Forest Service FIA Forest Resources Sustainability Project
M.S. Research Assistantship

Position Description:

The Forest Biometrics Lab at University of Tennessee (UT) is now accepting applications for a 2-year M.S. research assistantship under the supervision of Dr. Sheng-I Yang. The sustainability of the mixed-hardwood forests has received increased attention due to declines in the natural regeneration of several important tree species, which would negatively impact forest structure, biodiversity, carbon storage and commercial value. The main objective of this project is to develop accurate statistical procedures to assess forest structure and regeneration potential for short-term and long-term forecasts of hardwood tree and stand development in the Eastern US. The project will be conducted in collaboration with Dr. Thomas Brandeis at USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program. The incumbent will be responsible to present research results in professional meetings and to publish relevant work in peer-reviewed journals.

The incumbent can start in fall 2021 or spring 2022. The assistantship pays \$1,700/month (USD) and covers health insurance and tuition for 2 years.

Qualifications:

A B.S. degree in forestry, natural resources, ecology, environmental science, statistics, or related field is required. Knowledge of inferential statistics, data analytics and geographic information system (GIS) and experience in computer programming, statistical analysis or data management are essential. Strong written and oral communication skills in English, self-motivation, perseverance, and the ability to work independently and collaboratively are important.

How to apply:

Interested candidates should email the following material to Dr. Sheng-I Yang (syang47@utk.edu):

- (1) A description of the candidate's academic experience, research interests and career goals.
- (2) A curriculum vitae (CV) with contact information for three professional references.
- (3) A copy of unofficial undergraduate transcripts.
- (4) A copy of an unofficial GRE transcript if the GRE has already been taken.
- (5) One or two examples of key research publications/essays/writing samples.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed until the position is filled.

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status.