



Postdoctoral Scholar in Social Networking of STEM Researchers, Texas A&M University

The Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) Network, an NSF-sponsored, multi-university program to prepare future faculty, and the Department of Geology and Geophysics at Texas A&M University invite applications for a postdoctoral position that will contribute to research initiatives and the mission of the CIRTL Network (<http://cirtl.net>). CIRTL uses graduate education at six universities as the leverage point to develop a national network of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and faculty with the capability and commitment to implement and improve effective teaching and learning practices for all students.

Specifically, we seek an outstanding, dynamic scientist, engineer, educational psychologist, or science educator who can act as a community catalyst within the online portal that supports CIRTL Network programs and people. We envision a community catalyst as a person who can mentor, guide and facilitate CIRTL community members as they explore and engage in online activities that build upon the three central pillars of CIRTL: teaching as research, learning communities, and learning through diversity. The community catalyst is expected to encourage new members to participate in the community's activities, promote understanding of the portal tools, moderate online discussions, develop content focused on integrating research and teaching, support mentoring and collaboration between members of the CIRTL Network, and help develop additional Internet tools. The position is initially for one year and is renewable on an annual basis.

Applicants should have a Ph.D. in science, engineering, psychology, education or a related field; an understanding of user-centered web design; effective oral and written communication skills; and an interest in collaborative research. Strong web skills, specifically knowledge of Internet-based social networking tools, are essential. Preference will be given to applicants with experience incorporating social networking tools into a learning environment and developing/moderating online forums.

Applicants should submit a brief statement of research interests and goals, and a complete CV including contact information for three references, to herbert@geo.tamu.edu. Consideration of applications will begin on June 1, 2008, and will continue until the position is filled. It would be best if the Post-Doc worked at Texas A&M, but we are open to the position being at one of the other CIRTL campuses for the right candidate. For more information, please see our position web page: <http://cirtl.tamu.edu/cirtlpostdoc/> or contact Bruce Herbert directly at 979.845.2405.

The *Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning* (CIRTL; <http://cirtl.net/>) uses graduate education as the leverage point to develop a national STEM faculty with the capability and commitment to implement and improve effective teaching and learning practices for all students. To achieve this vision, CIRTL has formed the CIRTL Network of six diverse research universities: the University of Colorado at Boulder, Howard University, Michigan State University, Texas A&M University, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Wisconsin–Madison. CIRTL is funded through the Division of Undergraduate Education of the National Science Foundation (Award 0717768, 2008-2011).

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