**PhD opportunity in the Environmental Biogeochemistry Lab (**[**https://janicebrahney.weebly.com/**](https://janicebrahney.weebly.com/)**) in the Watershed Sciences Department at Utah State University**

**Project:** Understanding the role of dust in catchment biogeochemistry

The Environmental Biogeochemistry Lab at Utah State University is seeking a PhD candidate to explore the role of atmospheric dust in watershed biogeochemical cycles and aquatic ecosystems. The position comprises two main projects, one to track dusts from their sources through the watersheds they impact, and a second to examine the chemical constituents of dusts and their bioavailability in these watersheds. Additionally, the candidate will conduct a thorough review of the relevant research while developing their contribution to the field within a thesis supported by the above projects. Wide latitude in approach and methods will be extended to the successful candidate. The anticipated start date is summer 2019, though alternate start dates are possible.

**Qualifications**

The student(s) must have completed an MSc by the start date and have a strong interest and background in one or some of the following subjects: biogeochemistry, geochemistry, hydrology, water quality, limnology, ecosystem ecology, and/or microbiology. Minimum academic requirements include a 3.2 GPA and 70th percentile on analytical and verbal GRE scores (or a combined score of > 306). Students with experience in analytical laboratory work, an interest and experience working with phosphorus biogeochemistry, strong communication skills, and experience with R, Matlab, or Python are preferred.

**How to Apply**

Please send 1) a letter describing your background, interest in the research area specifically addressing how you anticipate contributing to the project goals, and your educational and career goals, 2) your unofficial transcript, and 3) a CV that includes your GRE scores and the names and contact information for three references to Janice.brahney@usu.edu. Review of applications is ongoing and the position will remain open until filled.

**About Logan and Utah State University**

Utah State University is located in the city of Logan, Utah, a town with approximately 50,000 residents. Situated in a valley between the Wellsville and Bear River mountain ranges, Logan offers numerous opportunities for outdoor activities including local ski resorts, biking, and hiking trails. Logan is just a short drive to Salt Lake City, as well as many National Parks, Monuments, and Conservation Areas. The low cost of living makes this area an attractive place to live, play, and work.