

Postdoctoral Researcher in Science Education
(OPS Job Opening 41732, Postdoctoral Scholar)
School of Teacher Education
Florida State University

The Science Education research group at Florida State University is seeking a Postdoctoral Scholar to join our ranks under the supervision of Sherry Southerland (in collaboration with Lama Jaber, Miray Tekkumru Kisa, Patrick Enderle, Ellen Granger and Zahid Kisa). This position is C&G funded. The project that the Scholar will be assigned to is a 4-year NSF-funded project entitled ***Learning Through Collaborative Design (LCD): Professional Development to Foster Productive Epistemic Discourse in Science***, with an available start date as early as September 2017 (or later until the position is filled).

The LCD project is designed to investigate the role of a specific professional development activity-- collaborative design around curricular materials-- in supporting teachers' professional growth to enact productive epistemic discourse in biology classrooms. Productive epistemic discourse involves classroom talk and interactions that allow students to create meaning and understanding through constructing explanations, engaging in argument from evidence, and evaluating and communicating information. The outcomes of LCD promise to provide more equitable access to meaningful science learning and instruction, in the form of productive epistemic practices, for those students who are not typically engaged in such sense-making opportunities in science.

The Postdoctoral Researcher will serve as a general project manager to oversee day--to-day operation of the project. He/she will be involved in all aspects of the project with special attention to the data collection and analysis, and the dissemination of findings through conferences and publications. Job activities include:

- Co-lead and co-facilitate professional development sessions in the Design-Implement-Analyze cycles of the LCD project;
- Engage in the ongoing analysis of data during the LCD-PD cycles, especially in the first year of the study;
- Build educational research skills and a research agenda specific to epistemic discourse and teacher learning. Given the collaborative nature of this project, the post-doctoral researcher will have abundant experiences to collaborate on writing conference papers and manuscripts for journals with others, but he/she will also be expected to take the lead on publications;
- Participate in regular research meetings to discuss, develop, and refine analytical tools and protocols that the LCD project will use to examine epistemic discourse and teachers' knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes with respect to the role of talk and discourse in the classroom;
- Engage in collaborative data viewing and analysis sessions with a group of researchers and graduate students, specifically aimed at identifying and characterizing productive epistemic discourse in classroom interactions; and
- Mentor undergraduate students and/or graduate research assistants in the science education research group, with guidance from science education faculty.

We are seeking candidates who have a **Ph.D. in Science Education, Learning Sciences, Educational Psychology, Teacher Education, or related fields**, with preferably the following qualifications:

- Experience in science education research with a commitment to equity;
- Experience working with practicing or pre-service K-12 science teachers (especially high school teachers);
- Experience teaching in public schools, preferably in the high school grades;
- Strong ability to communicate effectively with researchers, teachers, and other school personnel;
- Knowledgeable about and/or have interest in research on epistemic discourse and/or teacher learning;
- Experience with data collection, particularly in public school settings; and
- Background in sciences, preferably in Biology.

Salary: \$51,000-\$55,000 depending on experience, with full benefits.

Start date: Fall 2017 or Spring 2018; exact date negotiable.

Term: Initial appointment will be for one year (renewable for up to 3 additional years).

Application procedure:

Interested candidates should submit applications through the FSU job application system (www.jobs.fsu.edu, OPS Job Opening 41732, Postdoctoral Scholar) including the following materials:

- Curriculum Vitae;
- A cover letter explaining why you are interested in this position and why you are a good fit;
- A research statement; and
- The names and email addresses of three references.

For any questions about the position or the application process, please email Dr. Sherry Southerland at ssoutherland@fsu.edu.

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