PhD Graduate Research Assistantship Opportunity for Fall 2020

Coastal Geomorphology related to estuarine bluff retreat in Coastal North Carolina and the implications to local communities and planners.

The Department of Geography, Planning and Environment at East Carolina University (ECU) is seeking a PhD student to play a leadership role in a project funded by the U.S. Coastal Research Program (USCRP). The project will examine the rates, causal mechanisms, and spatial variability of estuarine bluff retreat in Coastal North Carolina and the implications to local communities and planners. A variety of remote sensing techniques will be used to capture atmospheric, hydrologic, topographic and bathymetric data. These data will be examined using spatial and data science analytics and numerical hydrodynamic models. Interested students must be willing to work with faculty and students to establish real-time data sampling networks, conduct UAV surveys and use other media to capture topographic and bathymetric data. Students with prior experience in coastal hydrodynamic modeling or have the ability to learn numerical modeling immediately to aid the completion of the project will be strongly considered.

The student involved in the project would need to enroll in the Ph.D. Program in Integrated Coastal Sciences (ICS) at ECU (https://coastal.ecu.edu/coastalstudies/integrated-coastal-sciences/). The ICS, Ph.D. program is a research-intensive doctoral degree program that educates students to resolve complex problems facing coastal systems, using multidisciplinary solutions that integrate across both natural, and health and social science disciplines. The priority deadline for fall semester admission in the ICS is March 1, 2020. Questions regarding the Ph.D. application process and ICS program specifics should be addressed to Dr. Sid Mitra (mitras@ecu.edu), Director, ICS Ph.D. Program

Students interested in working on this funded project should initially contact Dr. Thad Wasklewicz (wasklewiczt@ecu.edu) for further information about expectations.