Call for Applications 2021
Graduate Student Research Assistant
Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Education Project

Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council has recently awarded a 6-year Partnership Grant for the Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Education (MECCE) to Professor Marcia McKenzie of the University of Saskatchewan. As a member of the MECCE Steering Council, Professor Aaron Benavot (Dept. of Educational Policy and Leadership, UAlbany School of Education) will lead research activities that address a key project aim – namely, to develop new data sources and innovative indicators of Climate Change Education and Communication (CCEC) for global CCEC benchmarking, target-setting and monitoring. Overall, the project involves nearly 80 leading experts and international agencies, including the IPCC, UNFCCC, and UNESCO, who will collaborate to address the climate crisis globally. Dr. Brett Levy of UAlbany's School of Education, an expert in climate change content in textbooks, is also a project partner.

The MECCE partnership aims to increase the quality and quantity of climate change education, training, and public awareness to advance global climate literacy and action. The MECCE project will go beyond increasing scientific literacy to address climate change and engage psycho-social and action dimensions necessary for personal, practical, and political change. It will also advance the provision of CCE globally by providing robust cross-national data available for intergovernmental and governmental target-setting and progress. See sepn.ca/mecce for more information.

MECCE will address these aims through 3 Axes of project activities: 1) Case Studies, to generate novel understandings of quality CCE based on synthesized literature and select case studies; 2) Indicator Development, to innovate new CCE indicators and data for global CCE target-setting and monitoring; and 3) Knowledge Mobilization, using high impact deliverables to advance policy and practice.

By building a repository of case studies from around the world, developing new monitoring indicators and datasets, and leading innovative training and knowledge exchange, MECCE intends to:
- accelerate intergovernmental target-setting and progress on CCEC
- improve CCEC policy and practice across sectors and countries
- enhance climate leadership globally; and
- close global gaps in climate literacy and action

Role Description & Qualifications
The UAlbany branch of the MECCE project is currently seeking a Graduate Student Research Assistant to contribute part-time to activities related to Axis 2 activities, Indicator Development. The RA will report to Professor Aaron Benavot, in his capacity as Axis 2 Lead, as well as to the Director of the MECCE project, Prof. Marcia McKenzie, and work closely with other Axis 2 team members. The commitment is expected to be 10 hours per week over the course of one calendar year, beginning in March or April 2021. The selected candidate will be compensated based on standard UAlbany rates.

A minimum of a Master's degree is required, with preference for PhD candidates (both beginning and more senior). Candidates should have knowledge and experience in conducting research; familiarity with research methods; experience interacting with collaborators and working with multidisciplinary teams. Candidates should also possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills (written and verbal); the ability to work productively, both individually and in groups; and the ability to work independently, following timelines to complete work in efficient manner.

Preference will be given to candidates a) with a background in climate change or environmental education policy, indicator development, and/or intergovernmental processes; and b) who are considering a dissertation in the area of climate change education, which draws on planned MECCE activities and outcomes. Candidates do not need to be UAlbany students in order to apply.

Conditions
Remote work is possible, given office space limitations due to Covid-19. The continuation of the appointment is dependent upon satisfactory performance and availability of funding.

Please submit a Curriculum Vitae detailing your education, awards, publications, research experience, and a writing sample (e.g., sample paper) to the address below (please include the words 'MECCE RA' in the email subject line):

> Professor Aaron Benavot
> Dept of Educational Policy and Leadership School of Education/UAlbany
> 1400 Washington Ave
> Albany, NY 12222
> **abenavot(at)albany.edu**

Application review will continue until the position is filled. The position is expected to begin as soon as possible. **Only those selected for an interview will be notified**.