German-Russian Summer School

New Monitoring Technologies for environmental research and their application

August 26 until 31, 2018
Potsdam/Schloss Schmarsow

Organizing institutions
The summer school will be organized by the Helmholtz Centre Potsdam GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences and the Russian V.I. Vernadsky Nongovernmental Ecological Foundation.

Background
Global change has triggered a number of environmental changes, such as alterations in climate, land productivity, water resources, atmospheric chemistry, and ecological systems. Finding solutions to the impact of global change is one of the most important challenges of the 21st century.

In Germany the northeastern lowlands are one of the regions most affected by climate change. The regional TERENO observatory „Northeastern German Lowland“ operated by the GFZ, analyses the impact of climate and land-use change on terrestrial ecosystems and serves as a platform for the monitoring, analysis and prediction of changing environmental conditions.

What is the Summer School about?
Are you interested in learning more about how complex data on climate and landscape development are recorded, processed and utilized then apply for this extraordinary event. Twenty students (10 from each country) will finally be chosen to participate in the summer school. Over six days you will attend stimulating lectures on latest research results and work intensely within smaller groups to experience the handling, management and visualization of terrestrial and airborne data, all under the supervision of noted scientific and engineering experts. A full day will be dedicated to the use and application of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in science and how to plan and conduct a UAV-mission. Fields trips will complete the scientific programme.

The observatory TERENO (TERrestrial ENvironmental Observatories) is embarking on new paths with an interdisciplinary and long-term research programme. TERENO spans an Earth observation network across Germany that extends from the North German lowlands to the Bavarian Alps. This unique large-scale project aims to catalogue the long-term ecological, social and economic impact of global change at regional level.
Application and Requirements
Applicants are required to hold a M.Sc. degree in geo-sciences, geography or environmental sciences and to be currently participating in a doctoral programme. Applicants submit a covering letter, a single-page statement of your motivation for participating in the summer school, and a copy of the Master’s certificate to Dr. Ludwig Stroink, stroink@gfz-potsdam.de. Excellent English skills are mandatory as the entire Summer School is conducted in English. We expect that participants will attend all lectures for the full duration of the programme and participate fully in the group projects. Some lectures might provide pre-readings. Bring your own laptop with you. It will be mandatory for the group trainings.

Application deadline
July 1, 2018

Registration Fees
No registration fees will be charged. A summer school fellowship covers all costs for transportation, accommodation and meals during the summer school.

Venue and Accommodation
The Summer-School takes place in the historical manor house “Schloss Schmarsow”
http://www.schloss-schmarsow.de/
in the heart of one of the test sites of the regional TERENO observatory „Northeastern German Lowland“. Built at the end of the 17th century, “Gut Schmarsow” was thoughtfully restored to become a beautiful Apartments, capturing the essence of its historical charm. All participants will be assigned to shared apartments (double occupancy). During the Summer School, breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. A fully equipped pantry kitchen will also be available in each apartment. Transport from Potsdam to “Schloss Schmarsow” will be organized by GFZ.

Ex Curriculum
Field trips and cultural events complete the scientific programme. Among others, we are planning a canoe tour on the Peene River. The Summer School ends with a reception in the Russian Embassy in Berlin. Dress is casual, but please be prepared to bring appropriate clothes for outdoor activities with you.

Contact:
Ludwig Stroink
Helmholtz Centre Potsdam - GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences
stroink@gfz-potsdam.de, Fon: (0331) 2881070

Andrey A. Cheshev
Russian V.I. Vernadsky Nongovernemental Ecological Foundation
acheshev@vernadsky.ru