The COOPERATIVE INSTITUTE FOR METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE STUDIES (CIMSS) at The UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN is currently looking for a SATELLITE METEOROLOGIST RESEARCH ASSOCIATE to provide leadership, satellite expertise, and meteorological support for the GOES-R Proving Ground efforts based at the NOAA/NWS TRAINING CENTER (NWSTC) in KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

Job description

The Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies (CIMSS) at The University of Wisconsin is currently looking for a Research Associate to provide leadership, satellite expertise, and meteorological support for the GOES-R Proving Ground efforts based at the NWS Training Center (NWSTC) in Kansas City, Missouri. The position will be embedded within the NOAA/NWS Operations Proving Ground (OPG) at the NWSTC. The OPG provides the infrastructure and facilities to effectively transfer new and emerging scientific techniques, products, and services into NWS forecast office operations. The OPG actively engages in the research-to-operations process by supporting applied research, verifying the quality and scientific validity of new techniques and products, and providing a common venue for both forecasters and researchers to engage in developing and testing state-of-the-art aviation weather services. This project will entail activities focused at maximizing the forecast value of geostationary satellite data and products, particularly activities centered on weather forecast office operations to improve forecast and warning services to the nation. The incumbent will interact with NWS operational forecasters and NESDIS satellite analysts to prepare them for new satellite dependent products that will become available operationally after the launch of the GOES-R satellite series.

The principal duties of this position are:

• Serve as a “Satellite Champion” at the NWSTC, leading GOES-R Proving Ground efforts on satellite based hazardous aviation weather products and demonstrating the unique value of satellite information to forecasters;

• Serve as “implementation expert” for selected planned GOES-R products and their proxies;

• Test and validate proposed new satellite dependent products and decision aids for operational forecasters with an emphasis on exploring the value of advanced satellite derived products for observing or predicting public weather hazards (e.g., convection, ceiling, visibility, snow, etc);

• Develop and/or document how these satellite dependent products and decision aids may improve the performance of forecasters by improving forecast and warning accuracy and reducing false alarms.

• Participate in routine experimental projects serving as the focal point for all satellite centered activities at the NWSTC;
• Lead in training operational forecasters on new and emerging satellite-based techniques and tools, particularly those propose to be transferred into NWS WFO operations;

• Provide satellite expertise in the logistical support of any special or field excursion experiments, such as the planned NWS Impact Decision Support Services E (IDSS);

• Coordinate and training activities created by the GOES-R proving ground members and cooperative institutes;

• Represent the GOES-R effort within the OPG by contributing to formal scientific publications or attending off-site conferences, symposia, and aviation weather-related outreach events;

• Develop synergy and shared accomplishments with the GOES-R Proving Ground at the Hazardous Weather Testbed (HWT) in Norman, Oklahoma and the Aviation Weather Testbed (AWT) in Kansas City, Missouri;

• Perform related duties as assigned.

The minimum qualifications for the position are:

1. A Master’s Degree or higher in Meteorology, Atmospheric Science or related area and at least two years experience in operational meteorology or applied research (additional postgraduate education may be substituted for experience);

2. Emphasis will be placed on applicants with considerable experience in satellite meteorology and its application to NWS forecast office operations.

3. Applicants should specifically identify expertise in Satellite Meteorology and any of the following areas: Convection; Numerical Modeling; Ensemble and Probabilistic Forecasting; Winter Weather; Excessive Precipitation; Knowledge of NWS forecast office operations.

4. Excellent oral and written communication skills are highly desired and an ability to work in a collaborative team environment is required for the position.

5. Please indicate experience with: Linux (or UNIX) operating systems, programming skills (e.g., linux scripting, Java, Python, Fortran, C/C++, etc.), and meteorological display systems (e.g., McIDAS, N-AWIPS, GEMPAK, AWIPS, AWIPS2, etc.), satellite data access, formats and display, web display capability and programming (e.g., Dreamweaver, Flash, Java, PHP) and generating briefings (e.g., Powerpoint, Camtasia, web, etc.), and providing training (e.g., teaching experience, workplace briefings, etc.).

Normal working hours will be observed except for occasional irregular hours during data collection, warning/forecast experiments, and workshops; infrequent travel is expected. The incumbent will receive training and experience in the latest radar technology and warning decision-making.
The incumbent reports to the CIMSS Principal Investigator, with oversight provided by NWSTC Director and NESDIS staff scientists. Technical oversight will be provided by CIMSS staff, NWSTC and NESDIS meteorologists. The incumbent works under general supervision but is expected to work independently and determine action to be taken in handling all but unusual situations. This is a non-supervisory position, although the incumbent may occasionally serve as a leader of scientific or technical experiments, groups, or teams; therefore, strong teamwork and leadership skills are necessary.

The salary for this position is competitive and will be based on experience, skills, and knowledge. Information on University benefits may be found by contacting Ms. Sally Loy at sally.loy@ssec.wisc.edu

The position is expected to begin on or before September 1, 2011.