



## SESYNC Feedbacks

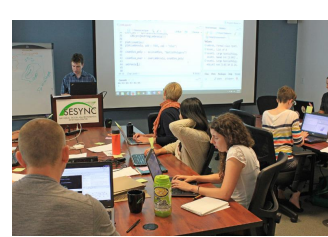
News from the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center

### **SESYNC Invites Proposals for Collaborative & Interdisciplinary Team-Based Research Projects**

Apply For Team-based Research Opportunities at SESYNC

The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) requests proposals for collaborative and interdisciplinary team-based research under two programs: [Pursuits](#) and [Workshops](#). Proposals must be uploaded to SESYNC's online submission system **by May 16, 2016**, at 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). More information [here](#).

[Graduate Student Workshop](#) on Socio-Environmental Synthesis will prepare graduate students with interdisciplinary proposal writing skills need for submitting collaborative proposals to SESYNC's next round of Graduate Pursuit projects. Workshop dates are June 13-15, 2016, in Annapolis, Maryland. Deadline for graduate student applications is **May 8, 2016**. [Details here](#).



## Distinguished Scholar Lectures on the Web

Our postdoctoral 2015-16 [Socio-Environmental Immersion Program](#) concluded last month. Twenty-three post-doctoral fellows took part in five, week-long workshops that included lectures on foundational theories and methods used in the study of change in socio-environmental systems.

Distinguished scholar lectures online:

- [Ecology](#)
- [Economics](#)
- [Sociology](#)
- [Anthropology](#)
- [Change in S-E Systems](#)

More about the Immersion Program [here](#).

## Seed Dispersal Workshop at SESYNC

Post-doctoral fellow Noelle Beckman will lead a National Science Foundation-supported [workshop on seed dispersal](#) May 9-13.

Dispersal is a key process in the spread of populations, in biodiversity patterns from local to global scales, in gene flow and potential adaptation in novel environments, and in species responses to global change.

Beckman says, "All plant species everywhere would be vulnerable just because all plants depend on dispersal, and global change will affect all aspects of dispersal in complex ways."

## Learn New Scientific Computing Skills

SESYNC invites applications from small teams of researchers for the 2016 Computational Summer Institute ([CSI](#)) on July 26-29.

Our 3rd annual CSI will mix hands-on instruction with hacking on socio-environmental projects.

The workshop will focus on using R for:

- data management and analysis,
- GIS, and
- web applications.

Members of SESYNC science teams will be given priority.

[Apply by May 25.](#)

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## SESYNC Releases R Package for Working with PostGIS

From geotagged social media posts to satellite-based remote sensors, the variety and volume of geodatasets - data items associated with specific spatial coordinates or areas - are rapidly growing, as is their use in socio-environmental systems research. Today, free and open source spatial analysis software offer a level of functionality and efficiency matching that of proprietary Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

At SESYNC, we provide tools for and training on how to use the R programming language for spatial data analysis and visualization (see [our tutorial](#)), and also host a PostGIS ([available here](#)) server to store larger geodatabases. PostGIS is the spatial extension to the popular open source database system, PostgreSQL. A typical workflow integrating both resources might involve importing a subset of the geodata from PostGIS into R, performing some analysis, and possibly re-exporting the output to the database. ([Continue reading.](#))

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