



Institute for Sustainable Solutions  
Ecosystem Services supporting Urbanizing Regions (ESUR) IGERT

February 23, 2015

Dear Mr. Marron:

Congratulations! After a competitive review process of many highly qualified applicants from across the country, we are pleased to offer you admission to the Ecosystems Services supporting Urbanizing Regions (ESUR) IGERT program. If you accept this offer, you will be joining other outstanding Ph.D. students to become Fellows in the fifth cohort of the ESUR IGERT Ph.D. program, starting in the fall of 2015.

This offer is contingent upon your acceptance into the departmental or school Ph.D. program to which you have applied. Final, official admission to Portland State University depends upon confirmation of your standing by the University Office of Admissions. Based on our review, we do not anticipate any problems with you obtaining admission.

With this offer of acceptance, we are pleased to extend the following funding and support during your first two years: a \$30,000 annual stipend, fully paid tuition and fees, and university health insurance. In addition, you will have access to \$10,500 in funding to support your research. This will be available during your first 3-4 years. You will also be eligible to apply for travel and subsistence support from IGERT funds to conduct comparative research studies and for travel support to make presentations at professional conferences. Per our commitment to the National Science Foundation IGERT Program, the ESUR faculty and PSU administration will work with IGERT students to assist in securing funding for stipend and tuition support during the remaining 2-3 years of your Ph.D. program. In most cases stipends are lower than the NSF level.

In return for this funding, we require a year-round full time commitment to your studies and research. In order to maintain your Fellowship, you must maintain a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.00 or higher in all graduate credits earned at PSU and make satisfactory progress in your PhD program and in the ESUR program as evaluated by the IGERT faculty team. In addition, NSF guidelines state that no other employment is permissible while you are being supported by IGERT funds.

Due to the competitive nature of our application process, we would appreciate a confirmation that you will enter our program by Friday, February 27th, 2015. A completed Response Form (see below) must be received no later than Friday, March 6th, 2015.

In the ESUR IGERT program we encourage co-advisorships with faculty from different disciplines to facilitate development of interdisciplinary research. Your advisors in the ESUR IGERT program will be Dr. Wakeland and a 2<sup>nd</sup> advisor to be identified through discussion between you and Dr. Wakeland. You should consult with your advisors regarding the development of an appropriate program of study at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kim Heavener, IGERT Program Administrator, at 503-725-2679 or [kimber23@pdx.edu](mailto:kimber23@pdx.edu). We sincerely hope that you will join us at Portland State University for the Fall 2015 term. We look forward to working with you and to the contribution that you will make to our program.

Sincerely,



Dr. Darrell Brown  
Co-Director, ESUR-IGERT Program  
Les Fahey/KPMG Professor of Accounting and  
Fellow, Institute for Sustainable Solutions



Dr. Elise Granek  
Co-Director, ESUR-IGERT Program  
Associate Professor of Environmental Science,  
Marine Ecologist, Conservation Biologist and  
Fellow, Institute for Sustainable Solutions



Institute for Sustainable Solutions  
Ecosystem Services supporting Urbanizing Regions (ESUR) IGERT

I \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print your full name)

☐ accept

☐ decline

admission to the Ecosystems Services supporting Urbanizing Regions Program (ESUR) IGERT program.

I understand that my acceptance requires a full time commitment to the program. I also understand that my acceptance requires:

1. participation in the week-long Summer Institute during the week of September 14-18, 2015;
2. participation and satisfactory completion of all required ESUR IGERT courses;
3. full-time commitment to IGERT-related research and training during summer terms;
4. appointment of at least two ESUR IGERT program faculty members, including my advisor, on my comprehensive examination and dissertation committees, and;
5. one of the following: either completion of my dissertation with one co-authored chapter, or submission of one peer-reviewed journal article prior to completing the dissertation, co-authored with another ESUR IGERT student or community partner. The chapter or article will be interdisciplinary research as defined by the National Academies below and adopted by the National Science Foundation.\*

\*"Interdisciplinary research is a mode of research by teams or individuals that integrates information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts, and/or theories from two or more disciplines or bodies of specialized knowledge to advance fundamental understanding or to solve problems whose solutions are beyond the scope of a single discipline or area of research practice." Reference: Committee on Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research, Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (2004). Facilitating interdisciplinary research. National Academies. Washington: National Academy Press, p. 2.

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(signature)

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(date)

**Please return this form and proof of US citizenship/permanent residency by email, fax or mail no later than Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to:**

Kim Heavener  
Program Administrator IGERT/ULTRA  
Institute for Sustainable Solutions – SUST  
Portland State University

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Portland, OR 97207  
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kimber23@pdx.edu