PER postdoc position at the University of Colorado

Applications are invited for a Postdoctoral Researcher in Physics Education in the Department of Physics at the University of Colorado Boulder. The postdoc will work on an NSF-funded project titled “Developing and Supporting Student Projects in Upper-division Physics Lab Courses.” Using a Design-Based Implementation Research approach, this work will culminate in a compendium of research-based effective practices for multiweek projects in upper-division physics lab courses. These effective practices will inform three major aspects of projects: (1) goals and framing of projects; (2) guidelines for the structure of projects, including authentic field-tested exemplars; and (3) guidelines for choosing appropriate assessments and interpreting their results. In particular, these effective practices will be developed to promote students’ model-based reasoning skills, troubleshooting skills, documentation practices, and a sense of ownership over their projects. The postdoc will work in the group of Heather Lewandowski and collaborate with faculty, postdocs, and graduate students in Colorado’s Physics Education Research Group.

Candidates must have a Ph.D. in physics, physics education research, or closely related field. Prior experience with experimental physics research or physics education research is preferred. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in both areas. The project involves partnerships with faculty members and students at multiple institutions across the United States, and the successful candidate will maintain those partnerships through appropriate interpersonal communication and teamwork.

To apply for the position please send the following materials to lewandoh@colorado.edu.

1. Cover letter that addresses the required and preferred qualifications described above, describes the applicant’s interest in joining the project, and answers the following questions:

1.A) In what ways do your previous research, teaching, or outreach experiences inform your vision for improving undergraduate physics lab courses?

1.B) How do your previous experiences prepare you to work cooperatively and productively with colleagues, students, and supervisors from diverse backgrounds?

1.C) In this postdoctoral research position, you will gain significant skills in physics education research. How do you envision those skills will be useful to you later in your career?

2. CV with references listed.

The University of Colorado is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to building a diverse workforce. We encourage applications from women, racial and ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities and veterans. Alternative formats of this ad can be provided upon request for individuals with disabilities by contacting the ADA Coordinator at hr-ada@colorado.edu.