Questions asked during Jamie’s phone interview

- There were 4 people on the phone call – 3 members of the search committee + 1 grad student representative
- They allotted 1 hour for the phone call, with time for my questions. They asked questions for about 30 min and I asked questions for about 10 min (40 min total)

Questions re: Teaching

1) Reading from the job announcement (directly), we seek a broadly trained human geography who focuses on the political and economic aspects of natural resource use and management, can provide regional expertise in climate change, water and resource vulnerability in Montana, and contribute to interdisciplinary research. How are you uniquely qualified for this position?

2) Again, reading from the job announcement, we seek a human geography to teach classes in human geography, world region geography and natural resource geography and policy. How would you go about organizing a class like this?

3) [from grad student rep]: Another question on teaching, this one about senior undergraduate or graduate courses. What courses would you offer in your area of specialization?

Questions re: Skill Sets

4) Tell us about your experience collecting empirical data, including qualitative, quantitative and spatial statistics and modeling? [my note: job ad listed spatial stats and modeling as a “preferred qualification”]

5) What are your strengths in terms of interpersonal skills and communication skills

Questions re: Future Research

6) Describe a future research project that you would like to implement in Montana – describe the trajectory of this project and also funding sources; also indicate how this relates specifically to Montana or the US West

7) How would you integrate your research across campus within the wider university system, and also throughout the state?

8) Describe what type of leadership role you could play in integrating physical and social sciences within the newly established Institute on Ecosystems; What leadership experience do you have in shaping interdisciplinary projects and collaborating on interdisciplinary projects? [something along those lines]

9) How would you integrate teaching and research? Draw on a past experience of how you have done this.

Questions that I asked them (10 min)
1) for Dr. X, What do you see the role of a social scientist in the Institute on Ecosystems? What are you looking for in a social science collaborator?

2) for Dr. X or X [student rep], what is the breakdown of students in the Geography option vs. Geology option? And what tend to be the nature of the interests of the students in the Geography option?

3) for X [grad rep]: How are grad students funded in the department? Are there RAs or TAs available?

4) for Dr. X or anyone else who would like to comment: for faculty or students who are not in the human geography track, what do you see as the role of social scientist or human geographer being within the department?