



**TO:** PRC Member Labs  
**FROM:** Andreas Nebenführ and Neal Stewart,  
Co-Directors of the Tennessee Plant Research Center  
**DATE:** March 23, 2017  
**SUBJECT: Graduate Student & Postdoc Research Grants**

The Plant Research Center is pleased to announce the availability of a research grant of up to \$5,000 that will be available to support a research project of a graduate student or a postdoc in one of the PRC member labs. The express intent of this grant is to encourage graduate students and postdocs to develop a detailed research plan that lie outside the currently funded projects of their lab. For graduate students, the project should be connected to the student's dissertation topic and help them explore novel aspects of their research area. Collaborative projects that involve more than one lab are encouraged.

The competition is open to all graduate students in labs whose PI is currently a member of the Tennessee Plant Research Center. The student's mentor may have input in the development of the project but the proposal should be written by the graduate student.

Proposals should include:

- Cover sheet with title of the proposed research; names and academic units of the submitting graduate student and their advisor; email address of the student
- Narrative of the proposed research in no more than 3 pages (excl. references); for graduate students, this narrative should contain an explanation of how the proposed research advances the students dissertation
- Itemized budget for the amount requested
- Brief CVs of applying student and their mentor (NSF or USDA style)
- Current funding available in the student's lab

Proposals are to be submitted electronically to Jennifer Hinds (jyoung44@utk.edu) no later than September 15, 2017. The proposals will be prescreened by the PRC co-directors and evaluated by the PRC Board. Awards will be announced by October 10, 2017. Award recipients are expected to file an update to their research by February 1, 2018. A full report is due by June 1, 2018 that describes the results of the research and potential publications or manuscripts.

For questions please contact Andreas Nebenführ (nebenfuehr@utk.edu, 974-9201) or Neal Stewart (nealstewart@utk.edu, 974-6487).