The CFAES Office for Research and Graduate Education are requesting nominations for the **CFAES STARS** leadership development program.

**The CFAES STARS Program (Strategic Alignment for Research Success)** is a new initiative to identify and develop the next generation of research leaders among early and mid-career tenure track faculty within the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

The goal of the STARS Program is to propel our emerging research leaders – those individuals with the interest, vision, and motivation – to take their research programs to a higher and more collaborative level. The program will provide participants with the information, skills, and connections they need to assemble and lead large-scale teams in the pursuit of major extramural funding.

The nominee should be an early to mid-career career faculty with at least two years in their current position. We want the participants to be aware of the OSU system and be able to define what they need long term to be successful with a research focus.

The program will run October 2021 – March 2022 (6 months) with the kick-off meeting on September 30th.

The program will be in two phases:

- **Phase 1: Research Leadership Development program facilitated by the AtKisson Group for the first 8 weeks.**
  - The training researchers undergo to become excellent scientists and scholars rarely includes training in leadership. The leadership development and coaching program for early and mid-career faculty runs over eight weeks and is designed to help early and mid-career investigators understand the roles that they now must play, and how to focus their time and talents to provide a solid base for long-term success of their research enterprise. The eight interactive sessions draw on proven principles for entrepreneurs and small business owners, framed for academia. Each participant will also receive one-on-one development sessions with the facilitator to begin working on a Research Action Plan.

- **Phase 2: Research Leadership Development Program**
  - Four professional development sessions from December-March (2-4 hours in length) – anticipated sessions include: Project Management, Creative ways to fund your research, Dealing with Sticky Situations, and Mission Possible: Positive Leadership.
  - In addition, five Coffee and Convergence sessions are planned to provide cohort discussion on relevant leadership topics. Required light reading prior to the sessions for a lively facilitated discussion.

In addition, each cohort member (either individual or in small collaborative groups) will have a senior mentor to provide guidance and support through the program and work with them on their long-term Research Action Plan (RAP).

The program will conclude with the cohort members presenting their Research Action Plans to CFAES leadership, recognition at the Annual Research Conference, and promotion through social and media platforms.
Nomination instructions:

- The Chair/Unit leader will determine who will be nominated.
- Submit up to two nominations per department with nominees being from different ranks (one early and one mid-career).
  - Twelve will be selected to join the first cohort.
- Completed nomination packets should be submitted as one PDF to Shannon Hollis. Nominations are due on August 18, 2021.
- Nomination packets will be reviewed by a committee and participants will be notified by August 25, 2021.

Nomination Packet:

The nomination form, program description, and FAQs are available on the R&GE website.

- Completed Nomination Form
- A brief (300 words) personal statement from the nominee explaining why they should be selected for the course
- A statement from the nominee on their future research goals (500 words)
- The nominee’s 2-page CV, plus 5 years of publications
- A letter of nomination from the department chair
  - The nomination letter should include specific details as to why this person would benefit from the program and should include an expression of support for their career as a researcher as well as a statement pledging departmental commitment to attend the course.