Director’s Associateship

The Ohio State University is one of the world’s best public research universities, offering about 280 graduate study programs in all. The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) offers 23 of those programs through its academic departments, interdisciplinary programs, and School of Environment and Natural Resources.

Research is a key component of graduate education. CFAES translates cutting edge research to stakeholders across the state. By engaging with our stakeholders, we provide research, technology, and knowledge to support safe, sustainable, and viable agricultural practices across Ohio and the world.

This graduate award is offered to recruit the very best graduate students studying agricultural research. Up to four (4) Director’s Associateships will be awarded in 2020. It is important to note that our top choices for these Fellowships will often evaluate opportunities elsewhere. Consequently, this fellowship program must be coupled with an aggressive recruitment of top candidates.

I. Eligibility
Awards are open to students seeking to start an M.S. or Ph.D. program at The Ohio State University, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. The prospective faculty advisor must also hold an OARDC appointment.

II. Duration of Appointment
Duration of the Associateship will follow departmental (or school) guidelines. This Associateship will be limited to one-year of funding for M.S. and Ph.D. students. Funds to support the awards will be available on July 1, 2020. Note that if an OSU Fellowship is received, the Director’s Associateship can be deferred until the following year. If a department award is received, the Director’s Associateship is to be used first and the department award deferred until the following year.

III. Stipend
The award will total $23,300 for one year for M.S. candidates, or $25,300 for one-year for Ph.D. candidates, including any applicable tuition and fees. Awardees must carry a minimum of 12 graduate credit hours per semester and may not hold other appointments during the award period. Associateship recipients are not required to perform services as a condition for receiving the stipend awarded during the fellowship year. Responsibilities in subsequent years will be dictated by the source(s) of funding.
IV. Nomination Guidelines
Each program may nominate up to two (2) students for the Director’s Associateship. Although students can be nominated for both the FAES Environmental Fellowship and the college Associateship programs, students will only be permitted one award from one of the programs.

V. Nomination Procedure
Graduate Program Coordinators for each program should nominate students by electronic submission at oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions on or before 5:00pm Thursday, January 23 2020. Note that programs are permitted to submit nomination packets to CFAES in the order required by the OSU Graduate School Fellowships.

The nomination packet must include:
- Nomination cover page.
- The OSU Admissions Application Worksheet Form.
- College transcript(s) from OSU and previous institution(s). A GPA of 3.6 or higher (on a scale of 4) is required. If a program would like to nominate an outstanding student not meeting this GPA requirement, the program must include a brief explanation as to why this student is being nominated.
- A curriculum vitae outlining the applicant’s educational training, relevant work experiences, honors, and other evidence of scholarly productivity and performance (e.g. publications) is recommended.
- A personal statement from the student describing his/her research and professional goals (up to two-pages, typed, single spaced). The student’s name should be added to the top of their personal statement.
- A letter of support from the prospective faculty advisor or graduate studies chair describing how the student’s research will contribute to the graduate program. Note the prospective faculty advisor must hold an OARDC appointment and this should be specified in the letter of nomination.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are optional.

VI. Evaluation Procedures
Nominations will be evaluated by an Associateship Committee appointed by the CFAES Office for Research and Graduate Education. The target date for a final announcement of the awards is approximately February 17, 2020.

Please contact Kayla Arnold, CFAES Graduate Education Coordinator, with any questions.
Nomination Cover Page
Director’s Associateship Program

Nominating Graduate Program: ________________________________________

Nominee: ____________________________________________________________

Requested Degree: ______ M.S. ______ Ph.D.

Probable Faculty Advisor: _____________________________________________

By the published deadline, this nomination must be electronically uploaded as one pdf document and contain the following materials to be considered complete. Nominations with missing documents will not be considered for awards.

______ Nomination Cover Page
______ OSU Admissions Application Worksheet Form
______ College transcripts - OSU and previous institution(s)
______ A curriculum vitae for the applicant
______ Personal statement by the student (up to two-pages, typed, single spaced) describing his/her research and professional goals and research accomplishments
______ Letter from prospective faculty advisor or graduate studies chair on how student’s research supports the College’s Grand Challenges
______ Three (3) letters of recommendation
______ Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are optional.
______ Combine documents into one pdf and upload to oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions