Awards are available to support faculty affiliated with the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville undertaking activities that result in direct improvements to the TENN herbarium. Possible uses include funding of student workers to database specimens, costs associated with improving collections management, and validation of species designations using DNA or other procedures. Awards will be granted annually for a period of one year for a maximum of $5000. Over the past five years, six Faculty Awards from $2,460 to $5,000 have been given out.

**How to Apply:**

- Email the application as a single PDF with "Hesler Faculty Award Application – [applicant's last name]" in the subject line to Margaret Oliver, <molive18@utk.edu>.
  - Include the following items, not to exceed two pages:
    - Project proposal highlighting the proposed specific improvements to the TENN herbarium. Including novel collections and/or data enhancement of existing specimens.
    - A brief outline of the procedures and methods planned for the project including supervision of the project.
    - An itemized budget for anticipated expenses, including stipends for student workers.
  - Also include the following items, not to exceed one page:
    - List any Hesler Fund Awards that you have received in the last five years, including the year, amount, purpose, and accomplishments from the award.
    - List any current and pending funding for your research program.

- Once the award is granted the funds must be used as outlined in your proposal.

- Reporting Requirements: Successful applicants will submit a report within one year after the date of the award. The report should include the results of the award (number of collections databased), species identifications validated or updated, GenBank accessions for all sequences that were generated (including the TENN catalog numbers of the sampled specimens), and a summary of costs for the project. Please also include any ancillary activities that may help document herbarium productivity. This report, cost accounting, and statement must be submitted to the TENN Herbarium via Margaret Oliver, <molive18@utk.edu>.

- Any thesis/dissertation, publication, or presentation aided by this award must include a statement acknowledging the support of the L.R. Hesler Fund at the University of Tennessee Herbarium (TENN) and hard copies/pdfs should be sent to TENN.