

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
The Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department and TENN Herbarium
Announce the 2023 Hesler Student Research Awards
Sponsored by the L.R. Hesler Herbarium Support Fund
Application Deadline: 3 February 2023

Awards are available for research in the areas of systematics, ecology, biogeography, conservation, and biodiversity of plants and fungi to undergraduate and graduate (Masters and Ph.D.) students currently working under the supervision of a faculty member affiliated with the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville. **Projects must be herbarium-based, either using or vouchering herbarium specimens or analyzing herbarium specimen data.** This includes, but is not limited to, taxonomic revisions using herbarium specimens, phylogenetic analyses using data from herbarium specimens, ecological studies that will result in vouchers deposited in the TENN herbarium, and biogeographic studies using spatial data from herbarium specimens. **Over the past five years four Undergraduate and 15 Graduate Student awards have been given out for \$500-\$2,000.**

Award funding cannot be used for living expenses or to cover publication costs, but may be used for travel to scientific meetings at which you are presenting your herbarium-based research, visits to collections, fieldwork, field or lab supplies, food/lodging in the field, or other costs directly related to your proposed research. **The awarded funds must be spent within one year.** Any outstanding award funding remaining after one year will be returned to the Hesler Fund.

Please send your completed application form (1 page) and your proposal (2 pages) electronically as one pdf document (3 pages total) to the TENN Collections Manager, Margaret Oliver <molive18@utk.edu>, with "Hesler 2023 Student Award - <Student Level: UG or Grad> - [applicant's last name]" in the subject line.

- **The proposal should be limited to two pages**, including references. Please describe in detail how the project will contribute to the TENN herbarium, including novel collections and/or data enhancement of existing specimens.
- Detailed budget information must be included including a list of anticipated project expenses. Information justifying the budget for the project should be included in the proposal. **Undergraduate students may request up to \$1000 and graduate students up to \$2000.**
- An expected timeline, including when components of your proposal will be completed relative to your expected graduation.
- A detailed statement of all sources of current and pending support for your research project and/or travel (amount, source, dates of funding, and how much funding remains or is anticipated) must be included. List any Hesler Fund Awards that you have received in the last five years, including the year, amount, purpose, and accomplishments from the award.
- **Once the award is granted the funds must be used as outlined in your proposal.**
- Final reports will be due to Margaret Oliver <molive18@utk.edu>, one year from the award date and should outline goals, progress to date, conclusions, GenBank accessions for any sequences generated (including the TENN catalog numbers), meeting presentations, publications, amount spent and for what purpose, etc., and funds remaining, if any.
- Any student who received an award in 2022 will be eligible to apply for an award in 2023. However, given funding limits these applications may receive lower priority. Members of the UTK EEB Collections Committee will review the applications and recommend funding levels for the awards. Students will be notified in writing of their award status after the committee has met.

●Any thesis/dissertation, publication, or presentation aided by these awards 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.

<p style="text-align: center;">EEB and TENN Herbarium Student Award Application Form – 2023</p>

Name of Applicant:

UTK Email Address:

Title of Proposal:

Student Level (Undergraduate or Graduate):

Year in the program:

Anticipated graduation date:

Comprehensive Exam Date (Required for Graduate students only):

UTK EEB Affiliated Faculty Supervisor:

Budget (detailed list of project expenses):

Project timeline:

Current and pending support for this project:

Amount requested for 2023 award: \$_____