

Interdisciplinary training opportunities in plant developmental evolution for graduate students.

About the program

The [MORPH Research Coordination Network](#) provides support for visits of undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctorals, and early career faculty (assistant professors) between organismic and molecular labs for periods ranging from a few weeks (to learn specific techniques) to a semester (to complete the equivalent of a lab rotation and take coursework not available at the home institution). This element of planned networking activities comprises the largest component of the MORPH funds and is open to any individual with an interest in bridging the gap between organismic and molecular aspects of the evolutionary developmental biology of plants.

Funding duration

Up to four months.

Funding amount

Each year, MORPH RCN is able to fund five graduate student cross-training research opportunities. Up to \$3,000 is available per grant to cover travel plus per diem.

Evaluation

The first target deadline is November 2nd, 2007. Evaluation of grant applications will begin on November 2 and will continue to be accepted until all annual funds have been committed.

Application materials

1. a letter from the major advisor,
2. a letter from the director of the host lab (indicating a willingness to host, consensus about the proposed activities of the visitor, and an explicit statement acknowledging that the host lab understands that MORPH RCN funds may not be used to underwrite costs associated with the proposed research activities),
3. a letter from the applicant detailing research plans and interactions, and
4. a proposed budget for travel costs and per diem for lodging and meals.

Each letter must be no more than two pages. The applicant letter must specifically document the fact that the training opportunity is cross-disciplinary between an organismic and a molecular laboratory studying plant developmental evolution. By NSF rules, the budget may not be used to directly fund costs associated with the proposed research activities (e.g., supplies).

How to apply

All application materials must be emailed as attached pdf or Word documents to William (Ned) Friedman, ned@colorado.edu.

Proposal evaluation

Two members of the steering committee (one organismic and one molecular) and a third individual from outside of the core participants (chosen by the steering committee) will be charged with evaluating applications.

Questions

For further questions contact William (Ned) Friedman, ned@colorado.edu.