Undergraduate Fellowship
Integrated Agronomic Systems

We are seeking applications for a USDA-NIFA funded Undergraduate Research and Extension Experiential Learning Fellowship in Integrated Agronomic Systems at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). The 10-week fellowship will be held from 4 June – 7 August 2018 and will provide a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to work directly with faculty mentors knowledgeable on corn/soybean cropping systems, cover crop/crop residue management, grassland systems ecology, and soil management.

Student-focused learning outcomes:
1. Improve understanding of integrated agronomic systems.
2. Learn how agronomic experiments are designed.
3. Measure and analyze fundamental crop and soil variables.
4. Develop an extension case study to address a producer concern.
5. Effectively communicate extension and research outcomes.
6. Develop networks with other students, government scientists, industry leaders, faculty, and extension personnel in the field of integrated agronomic systems.
7. Acquire specific skills necessary to apply to graduate school.

Qualifications:
We anticipate selection of 6 students for the fellowship based on these criteria: 1) academic performance in agronomic, crop, plant, grazing livestock, soil, or related sciences; 2) passion for research and/or extension work; 3) interest in earning an advanced degree (M.S. or Ph.D.); 4) applicable talents and skills; 5) evidence of teamwork and independent problem-solving skills; 6) recommendations from faculty or other mentors; and 7) U.S. citizenship.

Stipend and other benefits:
Fellows will be housed together in UNL residence halls and provided meal plans and access to the campus wireless network, health center, recreation center, and library. Stipend ($500/week), room and board, travel to and from Lincoln, campus recreation center membership, and bus passes will be provided at no expense to fellows. In addition, we will support travel, hotel, registration, and meal expenses for a professional meeting to present research, interact with leading university, government, and industry scientists, form networks, and pursue graduate school opportunities. Total value of support for each fellow is estimated at $9,015.

Application:
Applications should contain a cover letter stating background and interests in the fellowship, a resume listing experience and diverse skills, undergraduate transcripts, and contact information for three references that can speak about the applicant’s academic performance and character. Applications should be sent to Project Director, Dr. John Guretzky, jguretzky2@unl.edu, by March 5, 2018.

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