DATE: December 22, 2015

TO: Chairs, Associate Chairs, Program Heads, School Directors and Graduate Studies Committee Chairs

FROM: David A. Benfield, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, Wooster Campus

Jerry Bigham, Interim Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education, FAES

SUBJECT: 2016 Charles E. Thorne Memorial Associateship

This memorandum announces the continuation of the 2016 Competition for the OARDC Charles E. Thorne Memorial Associateship program. Funds will be available this coming year to award a $20,000 (M.S) or $22,000 (Ph.D) Associateship in memory of Charles E. Thorne, the Director of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station from 1887-1921. A copy of the announcement is attached.

The award will be for one year to support a M.S. candidate ($20,000) or Ph.D. candidate ($22,000) at OSU who is in her/his THIRD or succeeding year of their graduate studies at OSU. Nominees must be working on a thesis/dissertation project administered through OARDC and who are working under the direction of a faculty member having an OARDC appointment. Each academic unit which receives funding through OARDC may submit one candidate for consideration.

We are requesting that prospective faculty advisors or graduate studies chairs submit a letter of support indicating how the associateship’s research will support one or more of the College strategic areas. I am asking that the William E. Krauss Director’s Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Committee pay close attention to applicants whose research supports one or more of the three strategic areas: Food Security, Production, and Human Health, Environmental Quality and Sustainability and Advanced Bioenergy and Biobased Products.
Please circulate this memorandum to members of your faculty having OARDC appointments who would have potential applicants. Also, please coordinate with your graduate studies committee or other appropriate group to provide not more than one nominee per unit. The Krauss Awards Committee will review the candidates and select the recipient.

If an OSU fellowship is received, the OARDC Charles Thorne Memorial Associateship can be deferred until the following year.

Deadline for receipt of nominations submitted electronically at http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions/ on or before 5:00 p.m., Sunday, January 31, 2016.
This Associateship was created through an endowment from Virginia Ryan to honor the memory of her grandfather, Charles E. Thorne, first Director of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station from 1887-1921.

**Eligibility:** Open to students (1) who, in 2016, will be enrolled in their **THIRD** or succeeding years of M.S. or Ph.D. programs at The Ohio State University, (2) whose thesis or dissertation research is on a project administered by the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) and (3) who are working under the direction of a faculty member having an OARDC appointment.

**Duration of Appointment:** One year; succeeding year(s) of appointment to be paid by student’s home department.

**Stipend:** $20,000 (M.S.), $22,000 (Ph.D); if departmental graduate associateship stipend is higher than that amount, supplement will be paid by student’s home department.

**Application Requirements:**

1. Nomination Cover Page.
2. College transcripts. A GPA of 3.6 or higher on a scale of 4 is desirable.
3. Up to a two page statement (typed, single spaced) from the student describing her/his research and professional goals and research accomplishments to date. Student’s name should be added to the top of their personal statement.
4. A curriculum vitae outlining the applicant’s graduate program, relevant work experiences, honors, and other evidence of scholarly productivity and performance (e.g. publications) is recommended.
5. Letter of recommendation from the student’s faculty advisor or graduate studies chair. The letter should include description on how student associateship’s research will contribute to one or more of the three strategic areas: Food Security, Production, and Human Health, Environmental Quality and Sustainability and Advanced Bioenergy and Biobased Products.

**Nomination and Evaluation Procedures:** Graduate Studies Committee from departments (or schools) should nominate students by electronic submission at [http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions](http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions) on or before **5:00 p.m., Sunday, January 31, 2016.**
Departments may nominate one candidate and can receive a maximum of one Thorne Memorial Associateship per year. The prospective faculty advisor should hold an OARDC appointment and should be specified in the letter of nomination.

Nominations will be evaluated by the Krauss Awards Committee. The target date for a final announcement for the award is approximately **February 19, 2016**.
NOMINATION COVER PAGE
Charles E. Thorne Memorial Associateship

Nominating Department or School:________________________________________

Nominee: ____________________________________________________________

The nominee is currently enrolled in the _____ M.S. _____ Ph.D. program

Years in this program: _____ years

Graduate semester credit hours completed at OSU: _________ hours

OARDC Faculty Advisor: _______________________________________________

Thesis/Dissertation Research Title:
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Checklist:

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

_____ College transcripts, OSU and previous institution(s)

_____ Up to a two-page statement by the student describing his/her research and professional goals and research accomplishments to date (student’s name should be on top of their personal statement).

_____ A curriculum vitae for the applicant

_____ Letter of recommendation from student’s faculty advisor or graduate studies chair. The letter should include description on how student associateship research will contribute to one or more of the three strategic areas: Food Security, Production, and Human Health, Environmental Quality and Sustainability and Advanced Bioenergy and Biobased Products.

_____ Combine all documents into one pdf and upload to http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions