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DATE: December 20, 2016

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

Charles Goebel, Interim Associate Dean for Research and Graduate  
Education, FAES

SUBJECT: **2017 William E. Krauss Director's Award for Excellence in  
Graduate Research**

This memorandum announces the continuation of the 2017 William E. Krauss Award for Excellence in Research. Like last year, this award will be for the best published paper by a doctoral student. A total of one award will be available and each department may submit up to two individuals who received their Ph.D. no earlier than the 2016 calendar year and have refereed publications either that have been published or are accepted for publication. Please see the attached guidelines for the complete guidelines and eligibility. Please be sure your faculty are informed of the award.

The awardee will receive \$1,000 and a framed copy of the reprint paper which will be presented at the annual OARDC Research Conference to be held on April 20, 2017 in Columbus, Ohio. Faculty mentor(s) will also receive a framed reprint of the paper in recognition of their contribution to the paper. The target date for a final announcement of the award is approximately February 20, 2017.

**The deadline for electronic submission at <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions> is on or before 5:00pm, Tuesday, January 31, 2017.**



### **Guidelines and Procedures for 2017**

#### **William E. Krauss Director's Award for Excellence in Graduate Research**

**Background.** The William E. Krauss Award for Excellence in Research was established through a gift from the William E. Krauss family to recognize excellence in research by a doctoral student. Although the award was originally based on the research presented in the completed dissertation, it has evolved in recent years to recognize the best paper published by a current or recently-graduated PhD student. This award serves to emphasize the importance to doctoral students of publishing their data in a refereed journal and rewards the student for producing the highest quality peer-reviewed research. The award will be presented at the OARDC Annual Research Conference on April 20, 2017 in Columbus, Ohio, where both the student recipient and the major advisor are recognized for their contribution to the scientific community.

**Eligibility.** The competition is open to all Ph.D. students working on an OARDC-supported project.

#### **Guidelines and procedures.**

1. Each department/school may nominate up to two individuals who received the PhD no earlier than the 2016 calendar year, and have refereed publications either that have been published or are accepted for publication (*in press*). The referred publications to be considered for the award must be related to the content of the Ph.D. thesis and submitted either during the tenure of the student in the Ph.D. program or up to one year after finishing the program.
2. The refereed publication submitted for consideration of the award must be based on research done as part of the doctoral dissertation and the student must be the lead author of the publication. The affiliation of the student with a department associated with OARDC should be clearly presented.
3. The publications will be selected according to the quality of the publication which can include the following criteria: originality/creativity, sophistication of data and research methods, and significance/relevance. Some evaluation of the strength of supporting letters (see below) may also be considered.

#### **Materials to be submitted.**

1. Nomination Cover Page
2. A letter of nomination from the department chair/school director, to verify the eligibility of the student, that the paper is/will be an integral part of the doctoral dissertation and that the paper was part of an OARDC project.
3. Two letters of support from faculty knowledgeable in the area of the publication providing an assessment of the quality and the significance within discipline of the paper.
4. If the paper is not yet in print but accepted for publication, then please provide a copy of the letter from the journal editor verifying the acceptance.
5. One copy of reprint or cop of the refereed paper.

**Award.** The awardee will receive \$1,000 and a framed copy of the reprint paper. Faculty mentor(s) will also receive a framed reprint of the paper in recognition of their contribution.

**Deadline for electronic submission at <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions> on or before 5:00pm, Tuesday, January 31, 2017.**



**NOMINATION COVER PAGE**

**2017 William E. Krauss Director's Award for  
Excellence in Graduate Research**

Nominating Department or School: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

**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
- \_\_\_\_\_ Letter from department chair/school director to verify eligibility
- \_\_\_\_\_ Two letters of support
- \_\_\_\_\_ If paper is not yet in print but accepted for publication, provide a copy of the letter from the journal editor verifying acceptance
- \_\_\_\_\_ One copy of reprint or of the refereed paper
- \_\_\_\_\_ Combine all documents into one pdf and upload to <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions>