

Call for Applications: International Conference on Arabidopsis Research Travel Supplement

The North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee (NAASC) has applied for grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to aid researchers from U.S. labs to attend the **18th International Conference on Arabidopsis Research** (Beijing, China, June 20-23, 2007: for conference information go to www.arabidopsis2007.com or www.arabidopsis.org/portals/masc/ICAR2007.jsp). On behalf of the whole community, we thank the NSF and USDA for their generous continuing support. Depending on whether the grants are funded, the NAASC intends to award **up to twenty awards of \$1,000 each** to help defray travel costs to the meeting.

Since these awards by themselves will be insufficient to pay for the entire meeting (we expect that they will cover about 50% of the meeting costs), other funds must be available to the applicants to cover the additional costs. Awards will be announced before the early application deadline, but will be paid as reimbursements to awardees following return from the meeting.

Selection Criteria: (1) the quality of the science and research abstract, (2) the strength of the statement about how attending the meeting will impact the applicant's career, (3) strength of the curriculum vitae, (4) strength of the recommendation, (5) ethnic diversity

Eligibility: Awardees must be full-time researchers in laboratories in the U.S. (citizenship/permanent residency is not required, but you must be a legal resident or legal visitor to the U.S.), Canada, Mexico, and Central America (Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama.) Only graduate students, postdoctoral researchers and junior PIs (in the first 2 years of their first academic appointment) will be considered for funding.

- **Applicants must submit an abstract to the meeting (for poster presentation at minimum; oral presentation is also acceptable).**
- **Applications must be received by February 28th, 2007. Applicants will be notified of the NAASC's decision by March 15th.**
- **Note that the early deadline for reduced registration fee is March 20th, 2007 although you may register up to May 10th.**

Please read and check that you acknowledge these requirements (incomplete applications will not be considered)

☐ *I understand that I must have a valid passport AND a Business or Tourist visa to enter China (passports and visas may take several months to acquire and must be applied for well in advance. For more information on passports: http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html, for visa information: <http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/hzqz/zgqz/default.htm>. Once you register for the meeting, an invitation letter will be provided for you to include in your visa application. Visas can be obtained in person at the Chinese Embassy in Washington D.C., or at one of 5 U.S. Consulates. If visiting the Chinese Embassy or Consulate is not convenient or possible for you, travel and visa agencies also handle the visa process for a fee, which must be paid personally.)*

☐ *I acknowledge that if I am unable to attend the meeting due to lack of a visa, or any other reason, I will not receive the travel award reimbursement.*

☐ *I understand that I must submit an abstract to present a poster OR to give an oral presentation to receive a travel award (you are not required to submit an abstract before being considered for a travel award but if chosen, you must submit an abstract prior to the final abstract deadline of May 10, 2007).*

Directions: Complete this form and send by email (must be in one Word or PDF file to jdfriesner@stanford.edu;

Please Note: Adviser's letter of recommendation, if required, may be emailed separately) along with the following:

- Brief Curriculum vitae (1-2 pages maximum, must include undergraduate and graduate education and degree attainment, professional appointments, if applicable; should also include awards and fellowships, relevant activities and recent publications)
- Adviser's Letter of Recommendation, including level of funds available, if any, for applicant travel (faculty do not have to submit letter of recommendation)
- Current and pending support (faculty only)
- Paragraph (up to 250 words) describing why attending the ICAR is important to you and your career
- Brief research abstract (up to 300 words)

Applicant Name (First, Last):

Adviser's Name (graduate students and post-doctoral researchers only):

Adviser's email address:

Check one: ☐ Graduate Student ☐ Postdoctoral researcher ☐ Faculty (within 2 years of first appointment)

Applicant's Telephone:

Fax:

Email address:

Applicant's Institution:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Have you previously received travel funds from the NAASC to attend an ICAR? ☐ Yes (what year/location?)

☐ No

For reporting purposes please provide the following: Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female; Ethnicity:

Race:

Please note that US federal funds may only be used to support air travel by a US flag carrier.

Please direct any questions to Joanna Friesner, MASC/NAASC Coordinator, at jdfriesner@stanford.edu

Important Visa Information: you must have a valid passport and business or tourist visa to enter China. We strongly recommend that you begin the application process early, e.g. no later than the end of March. See weblinks above for further information. Upon registration, organizers will provide an invitation letter to facilitate visa application.