I am pleased to recommend Clancy Short for the Kirby L. Hays memorial Award sponsored by ESA-SEB. I am James Terrance Brown, a fellow graduate student in the Department of Entomology and Nematology and a Student Research Intern with the United States Department of Agriculture’s Center for Medical, Agricultural and Veterinary Entomology. I have worked with Clancy in my capacity as a fellow graduate student in Dr. Daniel Hahn’s laboratory and as the 2017-2018 President of the Entomology and Nematology Student Organization (ENSO) at the University of Florida.

The Kirby L. Hays award is intended to support a student that exemplifies excellence. Clancy Short is excellent. I have known Clancy for two years and he has maintained a laser focus on scholarship and improving his research. During his time as a graduate student, Clancy has shared authorship on four academic publications and presented his research at two Entomological Society of America conferences. The University of Florida has recognized his scholarship by awarding him the Graduate School Preeminence Award and he has been recognized by the National Science Foundation with the prestigious Graduate Research Fellowship Program Award. Clancy’s academic pursuits have been complimented by his engagement with the public through teaching and outreach. Apart from Clancy’s responsibilities as a teaching assistant within the department he remains enthusiastic about communicating science to the public. Working in conjunction with ENSO and the Outreach department, Clancy also seeks out volunteering opportunities to share his knowledge and excitement for entomology here in north Florida.

Clancy Short has my entire support for the Kirby L. Hays. His personal drive elevates the scientific community here in the department, his professional integrity is something to be admired, and his aptitude to teach and communicate science is inspiring to the next generation of scientists. I have no doubt of his abilities and that he will represent this award and your institution honor.