

The UGA River Basin Center *John Spencer Research Grant Program*

The UGA River Basin Center is pleased to announce a new small grants program for graduate students, funded by a generous contribution from Kathelen Amos in honor of her son, former RBC master's student John Spencer.

Small grants are available to all students affiliated with the River Basin Center. Affiliate status is open to any graduate student at the University of Georgia, including those in professional programs, as long as their research and/or interests align with the RBC mission. Students can request affiliate status by filling out a form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/Jcu9jwz5jrAZ2yzU2>.

Small grants are intended to support a student's research activities. Projects should advance the RBC's goal of sustainable management of aquatic resources and ecosystems, but can be in any discipline or disciplines. Funds can be used for research supplies, travel expenses associated with research, and hourly wages for undergraduate research assistants. Funds cannot be used for graduate stipends. Travel to conferences may be included as part of a larger proposal, but conference travel funding must be limited to \$500.

Proposal Format (2 page limit, exclusive of budget and references):

1. Title of proposal
2. Applicant's name, email address, department, degree program
3. Introduction, problem statement, and research question(s) to be tested. Applicants should emphasize the work to be funded by the proposal, but also explain how it fits into the broader context of their thesis, dissertation, or other project, as appropriate. Research questions should be specific and the scope should be appropriate to the scale of the project.
4. Research plan and methods. Be specific but concise.
5. Budget with justification. **Budgets cannot exceed \$2000.** If the proposed work requires a budget greater than the limit, explain what other funds will be used to complete the work.
6. References.

Proposals must be accompanied by a brief (one page limit; one paragraph is sufficient) endorsement from the applicant's advisor or other faculty sponsor of the work.

Proposals for the 2017-2018 academic year are due August 31, 2017. Total funding available for proposals in this cycle is \$4000. Decisions will be announced on or before September 15, and funding will be made available shortly thereafter. Funds will need to be spent by June 30, 2018, unless special arrangements are made.

Proposals should be submitted as a PDF file to Wendy Paulsen at wpaulsen@uga.edu by midnight on August 31.

Proposals will be evaluated by members of the RBC Advisory Board who have no conflicts of interest with applicants. Proposals will be evaluated both on quality of the project (potential contribution of the proposed work and relevance to the RBC's mission) as well as quality of the proposal itself (i.e., how well it communicates the content and whether it includes all necessary components).