

MU FRIPS

Freshman Research in Plant Sciences



Earn money, gain research
experience, and meet
other science majors

MU Undergraduate Research
University of Missouri

What is FRIPS?

Freshmen Research in Plant Sciences is a program designed to expose new college students to the vital and exciting research conducted with plants and to encourage them to consider a research career in the plant sciences. FRIPS is funded by grants from the National Science Foundation. Eight positions will be available for the 2015-2016 academic year. Students work 10 hours/week in their research laboratory at a starting rate of \$7.65 per hour. Schedules are arranged around class schedules. **A mandatory weekly FRIPS meeting will be held (1 hr/week).**

FRIPS students...

- **Work** with a mentor in a faculty research lab on campus
- **Receive** an hourly wage for their work
- **Learn** valuable laboratory skills
- **Meet** other freshman interested in plant biology research
- **Receive** individual advising from faculty mentors, resources for science majors, and professional development opportunities
- **Participate** in FRIPS weekly meetings to help you strengthen your research academically and professionally
- Become part of **cutting-edge research** in a supportive environment



Six members of the 2014-15 FRIPS cohort continued to contribute in their labs through other research opportunities after their freshman year. All plan to continue research at Mizzou.

Eligibility:

- First year undergraduate student at MU
- Majoring in biochemistry, biology, computer sciences or plant sciences
- Math or science ACT score of at least a 28 or a high school GPA of at least 3.3 or placement in the top 25% of your class
- Interest in plant biology research
- U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
- NOT participating in other Freshman Research Programs (Discovery Fellows, IMSD-EXPRESS)

Examples of FRIPS research:

- How do plants recognize and defend against attacks from pests and pathogens such as bacteria, fungi, virus and insects?
- How do plants choose their mates through pollen recognition?
- How do plants recognize light and respond by altering their growth and development?
- Can we modify plants to produce biodegradable plastic at commercially-viable levels?

How do I apply?

- Fill out an application form on our website at undergradresearch.missouri.edu
- Turn materials to Mike Cohen in Room 150b in the Bond Life Sciences Center.
- If you have any questions about the application process or the FRIPS program, feel free to email Mike Cohen at CohenME@missouri.edu or visit him in his office.
- Priority deadline: Tuesday, September 1st, 2015

Are you...

- A first-year undergraduate?
- Planning a career in science?
- Interested in learning about plant biology research?
- Wanting to meet other science students?
- Looking for a part-time job in your major?
- Considering an honors research project?

Then apply for the FRIPS Program!

Stop by our office in **Room 150** in the **Bond Life Sciences Center** OR visit

undergradresearch.missouri.edu



MU Office of Undergraduate Research



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Sean Rogers

Biochemistry

“After the program, I have received constant funding from local and national sources, in addition to a summer research program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Undoubtedly, the FRIPS program provided me with the foundation to make those successes happen.”



Shawna Rowe

Biochemistry

“Before beginning the FRIPS program, I had no interest in plant related research. Paired with my biochemistry education, the FRIPS program allowed me to discover a hidden passion. Now that I have graduated, I am beginning a PhD program in plant biology.”



Casey Yocks

Biological Sciences

“FRIPS has helped me see the big picture behind the science principles we learn in class and use them practically, as well as shown me the variety of research that there is to be done.”



Yia Yang

Plant Sciences

“It allowed me, a freshman, to actively engage in research. I was using what I was learning in my classes in my lab. It has also allowed me to start narrowing down my future career research choices.”