

Faculty Member Contact Information

Name: **Betsy Esselman**
Department: **Biological Sciences**
E-mail Address: **eesselm@siue.edu**

Description of the URCA Assistant Position(s)

Number of students requested: **1**

Number of students to be funded: **1**

Will the student be eligible to earn course credit? Yes **X** No If yes, in which course? **BIOL 493**

(If students are to earn credit hours for participating, they should earn 3 credit hours.)

Location of research/creative activities: **Science Building room3210b**

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity:

Utilizing ISSR markers to investigate the possibility of hybridization between a rare and more common reed plant species.

Brief description of student responsibilities:

The student will help and eventually run all aspects of the investigation. Responsibilities will include DNA extractions, performing PCR reactions, running electrophoretic gels, scoring data, using computer programs to analyze data and produce a poster for the Illinois Academy of Science meetings.

URCA assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

The student will gain lab molecular biology experience, including ordering supplies, making stock solutions and trouble shooting experimental problems. They will learn how to gather and analyze data to either support or refute a scientific hypothesis. The end result will be teaching students how to present experimental results to the scientific community. I would also eventually like this student to apply to the URA program.

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours), please indicate all required days and times:

None

If the location of the research/creative activities is off campus, must students provide their own transportation?

Yes _____ No _____ **N/A**

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

None

Other requirements:

This position requires previous work experience in my laboratory.

Notes to applicants (i.e., any other information you'd like applicants to know about you or the position before applying):

None