

## **SCHOOL OF PLANT SCIENCES OUTSTANDING THESIS AWARD**

The ***School of Plant Sciences Outstanding Thesis Award*** will be awarded to a Masters student who has excelled in all phases of his/her degree program. Criteria include selection of a demanding and topical area of study, original and creative development of data-gathering and data analysis, and precision, clarity, and eloquence in the thesis text. This award recognizes both the student's achievement and the advisor's contribution.

### ***Who can be nominated?***

Any student who has completed a thesis in the School of Plant Sciences in the current academic year.

### ***Who can nominate?***

Nominations may be made by any faculty member in the School of Plant Sciences. Faculty may nominate their own advisees; however, because the award recognizes the contributions of both the student and the advisor, such nominations should be seconded by a brief letter of support (highlighting the advisor's contributions) from one of the student's committee members.

### ***How is a student nominated?***

Nominations must be assembled carefully and completely, and should include:

1. Name of nominee, nominator, and advisor
2. Thesis title and date of completion
3. List of student's scholarships, awards, or other special achievements
4. Letter describing the thesis, with a special emphasis on the contribution made to understanding plant and/or microbial sciences
5. Letter from a member of the student's advising committee highlighting the advisor's contributions (required ***only*** if nominator and advisor are the same person)

### ***What is the selection procedure?***

Members of the SPLS Graduate Student Program Committee will select the recipient based on review of nominations submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies, Dr. Betsy Arnold ([barnoldaz@gmail.com](mailto:barnoldaz@gmail.com)). This award may not be presented every year.

***NOMINATIONS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE 20 APRIL 2014***