

**Faculty Member Contact Information**

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<b>Contact Info</b>	
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<b>Department</b>	Environmental Sciences and Biological Sciences

**1 Funded, Unfunded URCA Assistant**

	This position is <b>ONLY</b> open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.	<b>M</b>
	This project deals with social justice issues.	
<b>X</b>	This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.	
<b>X</b>	This project deals with human health and wellness issues.	
	This project deals with community outreach.	
	This mentor's project is interdisciplinary in nature.	<b>I</b>

**Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?**

Yes

**How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?**

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

9

**Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?**

ENSC 499 1

**Location of research/creative activities:**

SW 2090

**Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?**

Selenium is an essential nutrient element for humans and animals. The objective of this research project is to determine the transport and fate of selenium in the soil-crop system with long-term fertilization treatments. Concentrations of selenium in crop and soil samples will be determined, and the bioaccumulation of Se in grains will be quantified in relation to different fertilizer treatments.

**Brief description of student responsibilities?**

Sample preparation (grinding and acid-digestion) and chemical analyses of selenium in plant tissues and soil samples using advanced analytical instruments.

**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 URCA assistant will become familiar with commonly used laboratory research methods and gain valuable research experience through various hands-on research activities. At the end of semester, the student will be able to give a scientific research presentation at a regional conference or for the senior assignment requirement.

**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:**

Time flexible

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

N/A

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

N/A

**Other requirements or notes to applicants:**

Junior or Senior status with GPA of above 3.0