

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, Inc.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Michael D. Netherland

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT

2027-2028 JOINT SOUTHEAST US FOCUSED RESEARCH AWARD

The Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) is pleased to announce a Graduate Student Research Grant (GSRG) to support research in aquatic plant or algae management or ecology. This academic award is cosponsored by regional APMS chapters including Florida, Midwest, Northeast, Texas with additional financial support from the South Carolina and Midsouth chapters.

Southeastern and Midsouth Regional Collaboration

APMS, the South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society (SCAPMS), and the Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society (MSAPMS) are jointly offering a scholarship focused specifically on issues relevant to the southeastern and midsouth regions of the United States.

The goal of this collaboration is to support applied research that can be implemented into active management programs and provide practical guidance to aquatic ecosystem managers addressing problematic species or management challenges within the region. By combining resources, the societies are able to offer a larger, more impactful award that supports robust research efforts and participation in annual society meetings.

The scholarship committee will give particular consideration to proposals that:

- Build on existing knowledge,
- Include both mesocosm and field components, and
- Provide clear, actionable management recommendations.

While the Southeast focused research topics, below, were identified by the scholarship committee and chapter representatives and will receive grant preference, all research topics and proposals will be considered:

- Vallisneria (eelgrass)
- Lyngbya control
- Harmful algal blooms

Objective

The purpose of this grant is to support a full-time graduate student conducting research on:

- Aquatic plant or algae management techniques (used alone or in combination with other management approaches), or
- Aquatic ecology related to the biology or management of regionally or nationally recognized nuisance aquatic vegetation, including macrophytes, algae, or cyanobacteria.

Eligibility

Proposals may be submitted by any full-time faculty member or graduate student affiliated with an accredited U.S. academic institution. If a graduate student submits the application, a faculty sponsor must be identified.

Award Amount and Duration

- Total Award: \$55,000 (APMS does not pay overhead or indirect costs)
- Duration: Two (2) years
 - \$27,500 per year

Award Notification and Disbursement

The selected faculty member will be notified of the award in time to make arrangements to attend the 66th APMS Annual Meeting, to be held July 13–16, 2026, at the Renaissance Downtown Phoenix Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. The recipient will be formally announced during the Annual Meeting.

The grant will begin in the 2026–2027 academic year. Payments of \$27,500 will be issued prior to January 31, 2027, and January 31, 2028.

Proposal Deadline

Completed applications must be received by the APMS GSRG Coordinator no later than May 31, 2026.

Proposal Guidelines

Proposals should include a concise description of the project, clearly outlining its purpose and justification. The proposal should also include sections addressing:

- Study objectives
- Methodology
- Project schedule
- Budget
- Planned publication of results

Additional requirements include:

- Resumes for the faculty applicant and graduate student (if known), each not to exceed two (2) pages.
- A proposal length not to exceed ten (10) pages.
- Signatures from the principal investigator and an appropriate university official.
- Copies of, or links to, the applicant's five (5) most recent peer-reviewed publications.
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Recipient Requirements

Grant recipients must meet the following conditions:

- Progress Reporting:
Semi-annual progress reports must be submitted to APMS by June 30 and December 31 of each year of the grant.

- **Participation:**
The faculty member and graduate student must participate in at least one APMS Board of Directors meeting and attend the APMS Annual Meeting.
- **Research Presentation:**
The graduate student must present results from the funded research at least once during the grant period. Annual presentations are strongly encouraged.
- **Final Report:**
A final report must be submitted to APMS upon completion of the project.

Award Consideration

If a proposal with a southeastern-focused emphasis is not selected, the award amount will revert to \$40,000 total over two years.

*For more information on the APMS
Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student
Research Grant
Visit the APMS website: <http://www.apms.org>*

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