AGRI 299H - Discovery Corps - Freshman Research Experience
Guidelines and Application

Faculty: ______________________  Department: ________________

Title of Proposed Research Experience: ____________________________

Student: ________________________________
(Must be 2nd semester CASNR freshman in the Honors Program)

Credit Hours: One (1) as AGRI 299H

Learning Objectives:
   A. __________________
   B. __________________
   C. __________________

Description of Experience:
Purpose of **Discovery Corps**:: To give second semester Honors Program freshmen in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources the opportunity to actively participate in structured meaningful on-going research in a one-on-one relationship with a faculty member of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

**Rationale:**
A. In order to graduate from the University Honors Program; students must complete a thesis, or creative work, under the mentoring of a University faculty member.
B. Successful applicants for nationally competitive high dollar graduate fellowships and scholarships often have two, or more, separate documented undergraduate research experiences.
C. Experience has shown that students that engage in research activities during their freshman years tend to continue in research, usually in their majors or the area of their freshman experience.
D. Honors Program students have been admitted as having high potential; the CASNR cadre of Honors Program students are of equal potential to any on campus.
E. Retention and maximizing potential are overarching goals.

**Goals:**
A. Provide a short-term (5 to 8 week) structured meaningful research experience.
B. Introduce freshman to the research as an academic endeavor.
C. Student will participate in active faculty lead/directed research.

**Outcomes:**
A. Student gains first hand experience/insight in to the world of research.
B. Student will prepare a written report of their activities and results
C. Faculty will prepare a written assessment of student learning, outcomes, and faculty teaching.

**Requirements:**
A. Limited to second semester Honors Program freshmen in majors in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.
B. Student must be current and meeting requirements of the University Honors Program.
C. Participating faculty must have an appointment in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.
D. Student must register for AGRI 299H.
   a. Description of intended research activities presented in the successful application will constitute the “contract”.
   b. Faculty mentor will assess outcomes and determine grade.

**Application:**
A. A description of intended research activities with learning objectives and outcomes prepared to faculty member/mentor.
B. Applications and awards will be done through the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Dean’s office.

**Benefits:**
A. Funding will be awarded to the faculty mentor and may be used to support teaching activities of choice.
B. Amount of funding ($300 - $500) will depend on number of successful applicants. Faculty may use these funds support their teaching activities (e.g. travel, supplies, books, software, student clubs, etc.)
C. With a positive experience, the successful completion of this experience should position the student/mentor to pursue UCARE funding as a sophomore.