

How to Apply

Prospective students must apply to an appropriate graduate program for admission to a Ph.D. degree program, or currently be enrolled in one. See our website for participating graduate programs and faculty, and to download application materials: isg-igert.umn.edu.

Application deadline is in December.

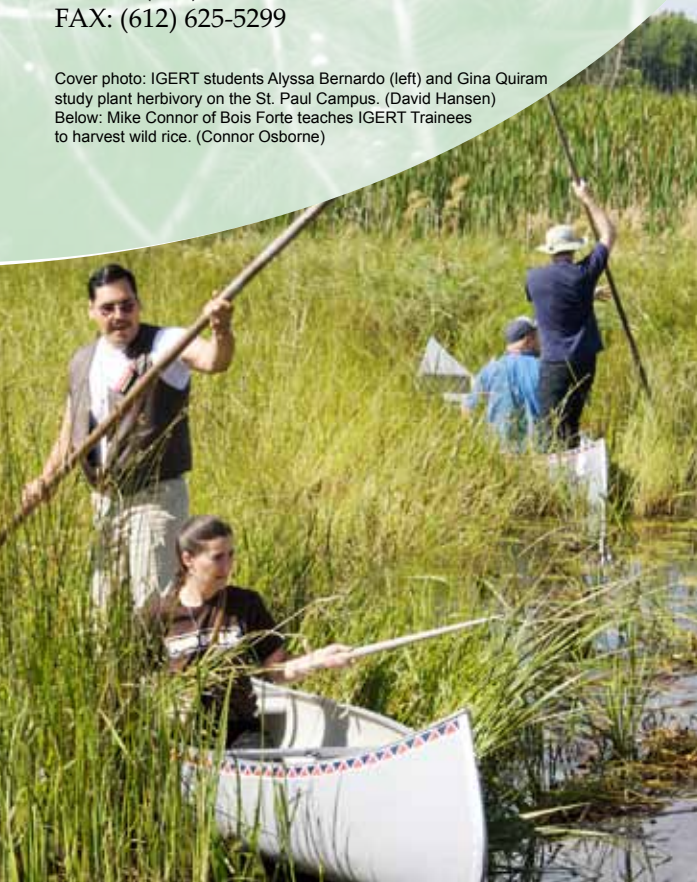
Contact Information

Ray Newman, ISG-IGERT Project Director
University of Minnesota
120 Hodson Hall
1980 Folwell Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108-6124

Email: isgigert@umn.edu
Phone: (612) 625-5704
FAX: (612) 625-5299

Cover photo: IGERT students Alyssa Bernardo (left) and Gina Quiram study plant herbivory on the St. Paul Campus. (David Hansen)
Below: Mike Connor of Bois Forte teaches IGERT Trainees to harvest wild rice. (Connor Osborne)

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The parasitoid *Binodoxys communis* attacking the Asian soybean aphid. (David Hansen)
The University is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
This material is available in alternative formats upon request: isgigert@umn.edu.

Graduate Training Grant in Risk Analysis for Introduced Species and Genotypes



About ISG-IGERT

Globalization is driving an unprecedented number of introductions of exotic species and new genotypes into ecosystems. Consequences range from highly beneficial to extremely damaging. It is the role of scientists to assess the risk of introductions to better inform decision-making processes.

Our Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program in Risk Analysis for Introduced Species and Genotypes (ISG) readies Ph.D. students to use analytic-deliberative skills in risk analysis of biological introductions and to participate in research addressing some of the world's most pressing management problems. For example, scientists informed a new permitting process that requires ships, by 2016, to clean and treat their ballasts before entering Lake Superior.

Students pursue their Ph.D. in their home department and Graduate Program at the University of Minnesota while also fulfilling requirements for the graduate minor in Risk Analysis for Introduced Species and Genotypes (ISG). See our website for participating graduate programs and faculty: isg-igert.umn.edu.

With more than 40 faculty from multiple disciplines and many external partners, our learning environment highlights important linkages among organizations and includes an unsurpassed breadth of experts who instruct students to connect science to all phases of Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA).



Daliris Ramirez Burgos and Dr. Ray Newman collect data for milfoil seedbank study.

Research Topics Include

- Evaluating effectiveness of regulation using retrospective analysis
- Improving theory and models for ecological risk assessment
- Improving experimental and deliberation methodologies for risk assessment
- Addressing uncertainty in risk assessments
- Managing introduced species and genotypes and post-removal strategies

Fellowships

The ISG-IGERT program provides a competitive stipend for Ph.D. students. Most Ph.D. traineeships will be awarded for two years, depending on the quality of the application and other sources of support. Each year of traineeship includes an annual stipend of \$30,000 and an annual allowance of \$10,500 to cover tuition and health insurance. The program is funded by the National Science Foundation.

Curriculum

In the field and classroom, students explore how risk analysis can reveal fundamental gaps in our knowledge and inspire new scientific questions. Students will conduct research to improve the scientific basis for ERA decision-making, determine how their research results improve the decision making process, and refine their teaching skills. Classroom work emphasizes cooperative learning. Ph.D. students will also gain practical experience by working with our international and national external partners.

Diversity

The ISG-IGERT program promotes the value of a diverse scientific community. We are committed to making the ISG-IGERT at the University of Minnesota a welcoming environment in which graduate students and faculty work together in a diverse setting for science education, research, and service to society. This program provides equal access to educational opportunities through recruitment, admission, and support programs that promote diversity, foster successful academic experiences, and cultivate the leaders of the next generation.

Jermaine Ekobena presents poster on aggressive horticultural plants at an IGERT Summer Research Experience.



Learn more about the ISG-IGERT program at isg-igert.umn.edu