

January 23, 2015

Re: Clemson Horticulture Students attending PLANET's Student Career Days Competition 2015

**Faculty of
HORTICULTURE**

Dear Governor Haley,

This year seven undergraduate students from Clemson will be participating in the PLANET Student Career Days Competition hosted by NC State University on March 12-15. This annual event brings together over 1,000 horticulture students from 60+ colleges and universities. Students strive for top finishes in 28 competitions, and colleges compete for a place in the coveted group of Top 10 finishers. We also participate in the largest landscape career fair in our industry and network with professionals from across the country. Since we will soon be entering the green industry, this experience and opportunity is incredibly valuable to our future.

Clemson students have been involved in Student Career Days since 2004. In 2013, 18 students competed at Auburn University, and the Clemson team finished in the top 20 out of 60 schools. The Clemson presence was prominent at the awards ceremony when one of our students took first place in Interior Plant Identification. This year, we will strive to earn more top honors and national recognition for our Clemson Horticulture program and the landscape industry in South Carolina.

Students on the team are responsible for their registration fees, and conduct extracurricular fund-raising events. However, we will need additional funding to help us take advantage of this incredible professional opportunity. The cost this year will be about \$300 per student for transportation and lodging. Your assistance will ensure that all of us are able to compete in PLANET this year. We proudly display our sponsors on team t-shirts and acknowledge all assistance on the college website and through articles in trade publications.

If you are able to support our student team at the PLANET Student Career Days competition, please make your check payable to Clemson University and mail to Dr. Robert Polomski, E-143 Poole Agricultural Center, Clemson, SC, 29634-0310.

Thank you again for considering our request. If you have any questions, please email or call me (bschlos@g.clemson.edu, 410-200-0844). Information on the competition can be found at www.studentcareerdays.org.

Sincerely,



Bryan Schlosser
Team Captain, Clemson's 2015 PLANET SCD team
B.S. Horticulture, May 2016

**School of
AGRICULTURAL,
FOREST, AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCES**

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**Planet Team
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