

## ABOUT OUR OWN “CREATE” IGERT PROGRAM AND TEAM

The proposal investigators were: Karen McDonald (PI, College of Engineering), Abhaya Dandekar (Co-PI, Plant Sciences), Pamela Ronald (Co-PI, Plant Pathology), Martina Newell-McGloughlin (Co-PI, Biotechnology Research and Education Program), and Jean VanderGheynst (Co-PI, Biological And Agricultural Engineering).

The CREATE IGERT program is highly interdisciplinary. It includes 17 UC Davis training faculty/mentors and five additional key senior personnel from 11 departments across six colleges/schools at UC Davis (College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, College of Engineering, College of Biological Sciences, School of Medicine, College of Letters and Science, School of Veterinary Medicine and the Graduate School of Management), five Tuskegee University training faculty/mentors and two international internship trainers from Ireland. The CREATE IGERT is focused on integrative graduate training in plant sciences, biotechnology and engineering with major applications in use of plants for production of biofuels, biopharmaceuticals and for environmental remediation.

We expect to fund a total of eight CREATE IGERT graduate students in the first year and 12 students in years 2-5. The fellowships come with a \$30,000 stipend, in-state fees and travel support.