Table 1. Fundraising goals and budget for the 2026 GARD Conference.

Expense Category	Cost/Unit	Units	Total
Travel Grants[1]			
International Region 1	$2,500	8	$20,000
International Region 2	$1,500	12	$18,000
Domestic	$1,000	22	$22,000
Reduced Student Registration[2]	$100	75	$7,500
Field Trips[3]	$2,000	3	$6,000
Workshops[4]	$1,500	3	$4,500
Poster Session Mixer[5]	$5,000	1	$5,000
Student-Professional Mixer[5]	$5,000	1	$5,000
Other Student-Led Activities[6]	$1,000	3	$3,000
Coffee Breaks[7]	$500	10	$5,000
Student Presentation Prizes[8]	$500	8	$4,000

Fundraising Goal **$100,000**

[1]We are budgeting for 42 travel grants (20 international and 22 domestic) divided among 3 geographic regions that differ in travel cost to Tennessee. These travel grants are dedicated for students, early career professionals (e.g., post-docs, assistant professors), and individuals with limited resources (e.g., developing countries). International Region 1 (IR1) is Asia and Australasia; IR2 is Europe, Africa, and North and South America (excluding the US); and domestic is the US. Travel cost for IR1, IR2, and domestic is $2500, $1500, and $1000, respectively, and includes total expenses for airfare, hotel, meal per diem, and registration. Three additional grants (one per region) are budgeted for keynote speakers.

[2]Regular in-person registration is $300. Students will be offered a discounted registration rate of $100.

[3]Three field trips are planned: (1) plethodontid salamander sampling and pathogen surveillance in the Smoky Mountains, (2) eastern hellbender health assessments in the Hiwassee River, and (3) reptile surveys in eastern Tennessee. Expenses include sampling supplies, wet suit rental (#2), van rental, and box lunches for participants. Each field trip will accommodate 15-30 participants.

[4]Three workshops are planned and budgeted at $1500 each to support travel for workshop organizers and to provide participants refreshments and snacks. Each workshop will accommodate 15 – 50 participants.

[5]Two mixers are planned – during the poster session and a student-professional mixer, and each is budgeted at $5000 for beverage and food expenses.

[6]A student-led committee is planning additional activities to enhance student experiences and professional development. An additional $1000 is budgeted for these activities.

[7]There will be 10 coffee breaks (2 per day x 5 days) at $500 per coffee break.

[8]Eight presentation awards ($500 each) will be given to students, with competitions separated by experience-level (PhD, MS, BS).

Hosting Organizations:

Global Ranavirus Consortium — Advancing Science Through Collaboration

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

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