

APS Awards & Honors

Sunday, July 31

Tampa, Florida, U.S.A.

2016



The American Phytopathological Society

APS Foundation Recognition

Congratulations to the many students, early career professionals, and international scientists who received an award from the APS Foundation this year.



**Thérèse Atcham
Agneroh**

National Polytechnic
Institute Felix
Houphouët-
Boigny, Cote d'Ivoire



**Tinatin
Doolotkeldieva**

Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas
University
Kyrgyz Republic

Books for the World Award

This award helps scientists, educators, extension personnel, and other agriculturalists in developing countries acquire educational materials from APS PRESS, and to promote international distribution of books, multimedia, and other APS resources.



Joshua Miller
University of Nebraska

Browning Plant Medicine and Health Travel Award

This graduate student travel award, established by the generous gift from Past President J. Artie Browning and his wife, Arra, was established specifically to assist graduate students majoring in a doctor of plant medicine or the doctor of plant health program to attend and participate in a professional meeting or conference appropriate to their interests.



Renan Macedo
Federal University of
Goiás

French-Monar Latin American Award

This award was established by Edward R. French and Delia Monar French to support plant pathologists from Latin America.



Allison Izsak
Cornell University

Howard Undergraduate Fellowship

This award was established to encourage the involvement of undergraduate students in plant pathology research and to encourage students to pursue advanced degrees and careers in plant pathology.



**Lucia Maramara
Borines**
Visayas State
University

International Travel Award

The APS Foundation, in cooperation with the Office of International Programs, established this award to support travel costs for early- and mid-career APS members native to and working in developing countries who otherwise would not be able to participate in the annual meeting. This year's awardee is from the Philippines.



Nichole Ginnan
University of
California, Riverside

Mathre Student Educational Award

The Don and Judy Mathre Student Educational Award supports skills training and learning opportunities outside of the APS Annual Meeting. This year's recipient will be using this award to support a research and training visit to Svelatana Folimonova's laboratory at the University of Florida.



Aparna Petkar
University of Georgia

Tarleton Student Fellowship

This fellowship was established by former APS Executive Vice President Raymond J. Tarleton to support graduate students in plant pathology research and to encourage students to further their careers in plant pathology.



**Jose Pablo
Dundore-Arias**
University of
Minnesota

APS Public Policy Early Career Internship

The goal of this internship is to provide a hands-on experience in public policy at the national level that relates generally to agricultural science and specifically to matters of interest to APS. By working with the APS Public Policy Board, interns learn how scientific societies, nongovernmental organizations, executive branch agencies, and the legislative branches interact in crafting public policy. Support for this internship to attend a meeting in Washington, DC is supported by the APS Public Policy Board.

Mathre Education Endowment Award

This award supports broad educational programs in plant pathology. This year's team of recipients is interested in supporting outreach and extension activities to benefit Native American youths in South Dakota.

South Dakota State University: Team Members pictured from left to right: Paul N. Okello, Phillip K. Alberti, John P. Posch, and Taylor R. Olson



Schroth Faces of the Future Early Career Professionals Symposium

This year's Schroth Faces of the Future: Epidemiology and Management symposium is designed to acknowledge "up and comers" in epidemiology and management. This symposium is made possible by a generous donation from Milt and Nancy Schroth.



Daniel J. Anco
Clemson University



Nik J. Cunniffe
University of Cambridge



Sydney Everhart
University of Nebraska



Chakradhar Mattupalli
The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation



Hillary L. Mehl
Virginia Tech Tidewater AREC

16th Melhus Graduate Student Symposium

This year's prestigious symposium will feature five graduate student presentations highlighting research in bacteriology. The symposium is named in honor of Irving E. Melhus, a renowned teacher, outstanding researcher, and pioneer in the field of plant pathology at what was then Iowa State College.



Sara Klee
Pennsylvania State University



Michael L. O'Leary
University of California, Davis



Jeannette Rapicavoli
University of California



Alicia Truchon
University of Wisconsin, Madison



Yucheng Zhang
University of Florida

Plant Pathologists of the Future: Top Graduate Students from the APS Division Meetings

This special session is designed to showcase the top graduate students (M.S. or Ph.D.) in the field of plant pathology from the APS Division Meetings.



Caribbean Division
Arturo Castro Rocha
Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez, Mexico



North Central Division
Ryan Humann
North Dakota State University



Northeastern Division
Sarah J. Bardsley
Pennsylvania State University



Pacific Division
Javier Tabima
Oregon State University



Potomac Division
Jake Jones
University of Delaware



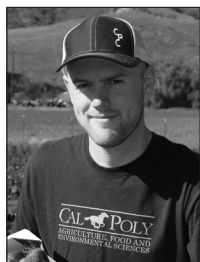
Southern Division
Eduardo Chagas Ferreira Da Silva
Louisiana State

APS Foundation Recognition

APS Foundation Student Travel Awards

The APS Foundation is pleased to provide travel awards to the following individuals to support their attendance at the 2016 APS Annual Meeting.

2016 Undergraduate Awardee



*Dow AgroSciences
Student Travel Award
and Joseph M. Ogawa
Student Travel Award*
Scott D. Cosseboom
Cal Poly Strawberry
Center



*Turfgrass Pathology
Student Travel Award*
Elisha Allan-Perkins
University of
Massachusetts-Amherst



*Gustaaf A. and Ineke
C. M. de Zoeten
Student Travel Award*
Nicole Bacheller
Nebraska Center for
Virology



*Richard Gabrielson
Student Travel Award*
Abby Beissinger
Washington State
University NWREC



*Albert Paulus Student
Travel Award*
Rodger John Belisle
University of California



*Tsune Kosuge Student
Travel Award*
Alex Blacutt
University of Georgia



*Milt and Nancy Schroth
Student Travel Award*
Frances Baker Browne
University of Georgia



*Roger C. Pearson
Student Travel Award*
Madeline Dowling
Clemson University



*Kenneth F. Baker and
R. James Cook Student
Travel Award*
Minglu Gao
The University of
Georgia



*Stuart D. Lyda Student
Travel Award and
Harry E. Wheeler
Student Travel Award*
Morgan A. Gray
University of
California



*Janell M. Stevens Johnk
Student Travel Award*
Joshua Havill
University of Minnesota



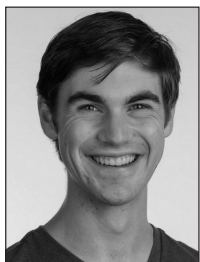
*Robert W. Fulton
Student Travel Award*
Brian Allen Hodge
The Ohio State
University



*Efrat Gamliel-Atinsky
Student Travel Award*
ChengFang Hong
University of Georgia



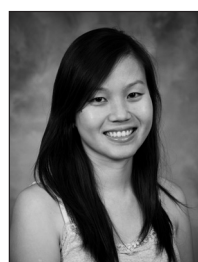
*John F. Fulkerson
Student Travel Award*
Russell J. Ingram
University of Georgia



*Joseph P. Fulton
Student Travel Award
and Dennis Hall
Student Travel Award*
Nathan F. Miller
North Carolina State
University



*C. Lee Campbell
Student Travel Award*
Karasi B. Mills
Ohio State University



*H. J. Dubin Student
Travel Award in honor
of the Peace Corps*
Mayara Mari Murata
University of Florida,
Citrus Research and
Education Center



*William Malcolm
Brown, Jr. Student
Travel Award and
Landis International
Student Travel Award*
Mason J. Newark
University of Florida



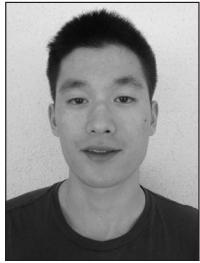
*J. Artie and Arra
Browning Student
Travel Award*
James Orrock
University of Florida



*Stephen A. Johnston
Student Travel Award*
**Camilo H.
Parada Rojas**
North Carolina State
University



*Caribbean Division
Student Travel Award*
Mayra Parra
Universidad de
Los Andes



*H. David Thurston
Student Travel Award*
Daniel Chen
University of
California, Riverside



*William Moller
Student Travel Award*
Robin Choudhury
University of
California



*Virology Student
Travel Award*
**Elizabeth
Cieniewicz**
Cornell University



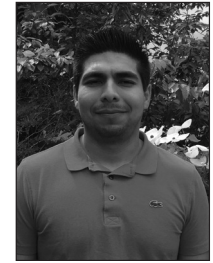
*Kyung Soo Kim
Student Travel Award
and Evanbia D. and
D. G. Kontaxis
Student Travel Award*
Alex Corrion
Michigan State
University



*Elsie J. and Robert
Aycock Student
Travel Award*
Chase R. Crowell
Cornell University



*Forest Pathology Student
Travel Award*
Dixie Daniels
Oregon State University



*Myron K. Brakke
Student Travel Award*
Alfredo Diaz Lara
Oregon State
University



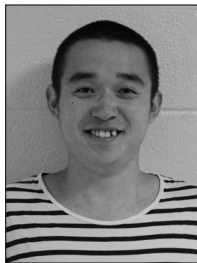
*Malcolm and
Catherine Quigley
Student Travel Award*
Zhian N. Kamvar
Oregon State
University



*Arthur Kelman
Student Travel Award*
Prem P. Kandel
Auburn University



*John S. Niederhauser
Student Travel Award*
Jillian M. Lang
Colorado State
University



*Donald E. Munneke
Student Travel Award*
Haoxi Li
University of Georgia



*Don E. Mathre
Student Travel Award*
Michelle E. Marks
University of
Wisconsin, Madison



*Malcolm C. Shurtleff
Student Travel Award*
Rachel Medina
Ohio State University



*Eugene E. Saari
Student Travel Award
and John F. Schafer
Student Travel Award*
Emily A. Meyers
North Carolina State
University



*José and Silvia Amador
Student Travel Award*
Juliana Pereira
University of Florida



*Eddie Echandi Student
Travel Award*
Davide Sardella
University of Malta



*Zahir Eyal Student
Travel Award*
**Andrew Edward
Sathoff**
University of Minnesota



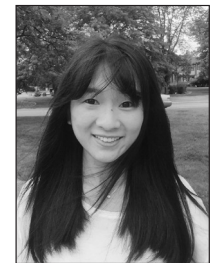
*Joseph Kuc Student
Travel Award*
Jonathon E. Smith
University of Arkansas



*Luis Sequeira Student
Travel Award*
Claudio Vrisman
Ohio State University



*Kenneth and Betty
Barker Student Travel
Award and John M.
Barnes Student Travel
Award*
Ellie Walsh
Ohio State University



*Raymond G. Grogan
Student Travel Award*
Yiwen Xiang
University of Illinois

APS Awards

APS is pleased to honor the following individuals for their incredible service, scientific excellence, and dedication to the society.

Ruth Allen Award

This award recognizes individuals who have made an outstanding, innovative contribution to research that has changed or has the potential to change the direction of research in any field of plant pathology.



Peter Balint-Kurti, USDA ARS
North Carolina State University

Peter Balint-Kurti is recognized for his contributions to the understanding of the genetic basis of quantitative disease resistance (QDR), multiple disease resistance (MDR), and the hypersensitive defense response (HR) in maize. Using mapping, genetic, and molecular techniques, Balint-Kurti and colleagues have elucidated the genetic architecture controlling natural variation in QDR and

MDR to southern corn leaf blight, northern corn leaf blight, and gray leaf spot in unprecedented detail. They have shown that MDR is based on the combined effects of multiple genes of small effect, identified QTL alleles conferring superior levels of QDR and MDR, including alleles from maize's progenitor teosinte, and identified specific genes associated with these processes. Using a novel genetic technique, he has described the genetic architecture controlling HR, identified and characterized pathways and molecular mechanisms controlling this process, and shown that the genetics controlling HR and QDR are, to some extent, related.

Lee M. Hutchins Award

This is an award to the author or authors of published research on basic or applied aspects of diseases of perennial fruit plants (tree fruits, tree nuts, small fruits, and grapes, including tropical fruits, but excluding vegetables).



Maher Al Rwahnih
University of California-Davis

Maher Al Rwahnih was born in Jordan. He received his Ph.D. degree in 2004 from the University of Bari, Italy. In 2004, he joined the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of California-Davis, where he is now a project scientist at Foundation Plant Services. Al Rwahnih's nomination is based on his research paper published in *Phytopathology* in 2015 and his other

contributions to grapevine virology. Al Rwahnih is the lead author of the *Phytopathology* manuscript "Comparison of Next-Generation Sequencing Versus Biological Indexing for the Optimal Detection of Viral Pathogens in Grapevine." His research proposed that classical diagnostic procedures can be replaced by next-generation sequencing (NGS) analysis for quarantine, registration, and certification programs of clean-stock grapevine materials, saving time and resources. The data clearly show that the NGS technique is comprehensive, precise, and accurate. This work will have major positive benefits for regulatory agencies, grape clean-plant programs, and grape growers.

Noel T. Keen Award for Research Excellence in Molecular Plant Pathology

This award recognizes APS members who have made outstanding contributions and demonstrated sustained excellence and leadership in research that significantly advances the understanding of molecular aspects of host-pathogen interactions, plant pathogens or plant-associated microbes, or molecular biology of disease development or defense mechanisms.



Adam J. Bogdanove
Cornell University

Adam J. Bogdanove, a professor of plant pathology and plant-microbe biology at Cornell University, is an internationally recognized expert on the molecular basis of bacterial pathogenesis of plants and a leader in the use of novel technologies, derived from molecular plant pathology, for genome engineering. Bogdanove's pioneering research on two pathogens of rice has elucidated

the mechanism by which pathogen-encoded TAL effectors manipulate host gene expression to induce disease susceptibility. His work represents elegant, cutting-edge molecular plant pathology and lays the foundation for the development of novel forms of control of two important diseases of rice. Of equal significance, Bogdanove's research is leading the way in the use of TAL effectors to make highly precise modifications to genes in plants and animals, a technology that allows investigation of the biological function of genes and has great promise as a powerful method of genome editing.

Syngenta Award

This award is given by Syngenta to an APS member for an outstanding contribution to teaching, research, or extension in plant pathology.



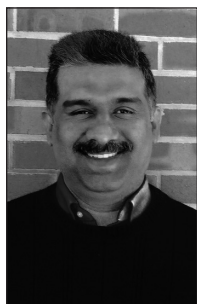
Pierce A. Paul
The Ohio State University

Pierce A. Paul grew up in Guyana and earned two degrees in Brazil and a Ph.D. degree from Iowa State University. He was hired at The Ohio State University as a post-doc and then was appointed as a faculty member in 2006. He is an international leader in the study of Fusarium head blight of wheat (FHB) and its associated DON toxin. Some of his most significant contributions resulted from the use of meta-analysis and other statistical

approaches to characterize the relationship between FHB and DON; evaluate the efficacy, stability, and economics of FHB integrated management strategies; quantify grain yield and quality losses caused by FHB; and develop and refine FHB prediction models. He is a very productive scientist, with more than 50 peer-reviewed publications in the last decade. He has served as a senior editor for *Plant Disease* and is a member of the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative Steering Committee.

William Boright Hewitt and Maybelle Ellen Ball Hewitt Award

This award recognizes a scientist within 7 years of the Ph.D. who has made an outstanding, innovative contribution directed towards the control of plant disease.



Mathews L. Paret
University of Florida

Mathews L. Paret was born in Kerala, India, and completed his bachelors in agriculture (1999) and masters in horticulture (2001) degrees from Allahabad Agricultural Institute. Paret received his Ph.D. degree in 2009 from the University for Hawaii, Manoa. He was appointed an assistant professor of plant pathology at the University of Florida's North Florida Research and Education Center in 2010. Paret and his team were the first in the United States to develop nanoparticles for management of a plant disease, bacterial spot (*Xanthomonas perforans*) on tomato. He also made significant contributions to our understanding of the biology of *Ralstonia solanacearum*. Paret's team has made a major impact in the detection and characterization of new plant pathogens in Florida and abroad. Paret conducts an outstanding extension program, including development of an interactive education platform, U-Scout, which provides the latest findings and disease diagnostic tutorials to clientele.

Excellence in Extension Award

This award recognizes excellence in extension plant pathology.

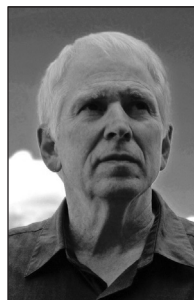


David B. Langston, Jr.
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

David Langston received his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from Virginia Tech in 1998. He was an assistant professor and vegetable extension specialist at the University of Georgia-Tifton. In 2014, he became director of Virginia Tech's Tidewater Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Suffolk. Langston's extension efforts have been to identify disease problems and develop practical management tools for growers. A major focus has been on fungicide resistance, fumigant and nonfumigant alternatives to methyl bromide, and disease control. He is known as a resource for fungicidal disease management tactics in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. As an extension specialist, he has won more than 21 awards. He has authored or coauthored 135 extension publications, of which 10 received national awards, and hundreds of other articles and publications. He has supported APS in editorial capacities and as chair of the Chemical Control Committee. He was president of the Southern Division in 2010 and received their Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award in 2016.

Excellence in Industry Award

This award recognizes outstanding contributions to plant pathology by APS members whose primary employment involves work outside the university and federal realms either for profit or non-profit.



Joseph M. Russo
ZedX Inc.

A national infrastructure that supports private and public professionals who monitor crop health and disease incidence so that their shared knowledge and observations can be quickly translated to mitigation measures to limit food security impairment is critical. Two essential components of this infrastructure are change in stakeholder behavior and state-of-the-art information technology platforms. Joseph Russo, founder, president, and chief scientist at ZedX Inc., has worked assiduously to catalyze this cultural change and to develop and operate common databases and communication tools so that pest observations and derivative information products can be effectively used for managing pests. For the past two decades, ZedX, specializing in custom weather databases, decision-support algorithms, and data visualization tools, has provided information technology platforms for agricultural stakeholders, industries, universities, and government agencies. With this award, we acknowledge Russo's truly outstanding contribution to the United States and international plant pathology research and extension communities.

Excellence in International Service Award

This award recognizes outstanding contributions to plant pathology by APS members for countries other than their own.



Jean B. Ristaino
North Carolina State University

Jean Beagle Ristaino had dedicated more than 28 years to research on *Phytophthora* diseases of global importance. Her belief that she have a moral imperative to work on improving food production in the developing world continues to impact all aspects of her work ethic. She has worked with students, scientists, and policy-makers to improve the capacity of science on emerging plant diseases in the developing world and empower women in agriculture research. Her lab studies global migrations of *Phytophthora infestans* and has solved long-standing debates on the Andean source of 19th century outbreaks. Ristaino has conducted *Phytophthora* diagnostics workshops globally to improve the capacity and infrastructure in the developing world to manage *Phytophthora* diseases. She teaches tropical plant pathology and leads study tours to Costa Rica. She served as a Jefferson Science Fellow and her research, teaching, and policy work have enhanced globalization of both North Carolina State University and APS.

Excellence in Teaching Award

This award recognizes excellence in teaching plant pathology.



Forrest W. Nutter, Jr.
Iowa State University

Forrest W. Nutter, Jr. was born in Plymouth, MA. He received a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from North Dakota State University in 1983. Nutter joined the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Georgia as an assistant professor in 1984 and then moved to Iowa State University in 1990, where he is currently a professor in the Department of

Plant Pathology and Microbiology. Nutter is an internationally known quantitative epidemiologist and is a pioneer in the field of understanding the psychophysical basis of how humans visually perceive different levels of disease severity. His interactive computer programs have been used in plant pathology and IPM courses at more than 100 universities worldwide to teach students how to assess disease severity accurately and precisely.

Excellence in Regulatory Affairs and Crop Security Award

The Excellence in Regulatory Affairs and Crop Security Award recognizes outstanding contributions to regulatory plant pathology, crop security, and trade enhancement efforts by APS members.



Team CIPM

North Carolina State University

Karl Suiter, Yulu Xia, Kevin Bigsby, Godshen Pallippambal, Jaap van Kretschmar, Roger Magarey, Jim VanKirk, Danesha Seth Carley, and Frank Louws (director) are being nominated for the Excellence in Regulatory Affairs and Crop Security Award to recognize their many contributions to the grand challenge areas of invasive species and crop security. Working as a team, they have established the National Science Foundation Center for Integrated Pest Management (CIPM) as the most respected source of information for predicting and mitigating the risks of exotic plant pests. Their databases and hierarchical decision-making processes facilitate USDA-APHIS initial responses and provide support for decisions on the use of resources to limit exotic pests. Innovative tools and practices to protect the borders are complemented with a continuum of programs to enhance crop security through national, regional, and state-wide IPM programs.

APS Fellows

The society grants the honor of fellow to a current APS member in recognition of distinguished contributions to plant pathology or to APS.



Amy O. Charkowski
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Amy Charkowski is an internationally recognized scientist who integrates discoveries about the molecular basis of soft rot diseases with the development of tools to detect pathogens and prevent crop losses. Her program has provided significant insights into *Pectobacterium*-host interactions to enhance potato breeding for disease resistance. She is an innovative director

of the highly regarded Wisconsin Seed Potato Certification Program, which includes a tissue culture laboratory, an early generation seed potato farm, and a regulatory program. Besides hosting numerous international visitors, she has made it possible, for the first time, for female scientists in the Middle East and North Africa to receive scientific training in seed potato production. Beyond editorial work, she has served on numerous APS committees and is director of the APS Annual Meeting Board. She is highly respected as an adviser to students and peers alike. For these achievements, Charkowski is most deserving of recognition as an APS Fellow.



Lawrence E. Datnoff
Louisiana State University

Lawrence E. Datnoff obtained his B.S. degree from the University of Georgia, M.S. degree from Virginia Tech, and Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois. After post-doctoral studies with USDA-ARS, he joined the University of Florida and was promoted to professor in 1999. He was recruited by the Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology at Louisiana

State University and accepted the department head position in 2008. Datnoff has achieved particular distinction as a pioneer in the use of elemental silicon to improve plant health. As department head, Datnoff has enthusiastically promoted and expanded a vision of graduate student education that goes beyond traditional classroom and individual research activities. His extensive contributions to the understanding of the effects of silicon in plant disease development, his successful efforts to make silicon use a commercial reality, his outstanding contributions to APS, and his promotion of innovative graduate education make him highly deserving of APS Fellow recognition.



Eric L. Davis
North Carolina State University

Eric L. Davis was born in Long Branch, NJ, in 1958. He received a B.S. degree in plant science in 1980 from the University of Rhode Island and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in nematology in 1984 and 1988, respectively, from the University of Florida. He joined the faculty of North Carolina State University in 1993. Davis clearly demonstrated that root-knot and cyst nematodes secrete effector molecules to initiate and establish host recognition and that these effectors interact directly with host proteins. He identified novel plant peptide hormone mimics produced and secreted by the nematodes in the interaction. Davis and collaborators opened new research avenues in many labs worldwide that resulted in general agreement that horizontal gene transfer plays a central, seminal role in the evolution of nematode parasitism of plants. His research demonstrated that host-derived RNAi could provide both a functional assay and a potential source of plant resistance to nematodes.



Anne E. Dorrance
The Ohio State University

Anne E. Dorrance joined the Department of Plant Pathology at The Ohio State University in 1997, with responsibilities in soybean disease research and extension. She has an internationally recognized research and extension program—with research spanning the continuum from fundamental to applied—on the economically important diseases caused by *Phytophthora sojae*, *Pythium spp.*, and *Fusarium graminearum*. Her lab and collaborators have identified new sources of resistance to these pathogens, developed new cultivars with race specific and partial resistance, and developed integrated management strategies for the diseases they cause, as well as diseases caused by the most common foliar pathogens. Her impact on soybean production regionally was independently valued in the millions of dollars. Dorrance has served on APS Council and received several awards, including the American Soybean Association Special Meritorious Award, the APS North Central Division Distinguished Service Award, and the APS Excellence in Extension Award.



Niklaus J. Grünwald
USDA ARS

Niklaus J. Grünwald received his Ph.D. degree from the University of California-Davis in 1997 and conducted post-doctoral training at Cornell University. He is currently a research plant pathologist with the USDA Horticultural Crops Research Laboratory in Corvallis, a professor at Oregon State University, and adjunct professor at Cornell University. Grünwald has contributed sustained, high-quality contributions to our understanding of the population genetics of plant pathogens, especially through his innovative work on *Phytophthora* species. Grünwald is well known for collaborative, multidisciplinary approaches to science and the integration of methodologies ranging from the traditional to the most modern. His efforts have resulted in an impressive record of scientific productivity, including more than 100 refereed articles in the best journals. He has provided exceptional service to his profession and to APS, especially in his editorial capacities. Grünwald is an outstanding mentor to his research staff and students and has given unselfishly to his colleagues.



Bernardo A. Latorre
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Over the course of a long and distinguished career, Bernardo A. Latorre has been instrumental not only in defining the status of deciduous fruit crop pathology in Chile but also in shaping the future of our discipline there through his teaching, advising, and mentoring of an entire generation of students. He has published nearly 100 articles in international refereed journals, primarily organs of APS, and has contributed numerous additional technical articles and outreach publications to make his findings accessible to end users. He has authored a major Spanish-language plant pathology text book, now in its sixth edition, and advised the thesis projects for more than 100 undergraduate students obtaining their Ingeniero Agrónomo degree. He served as the president of the Chilean Phytopathological Society, chair of his own academic department, and two terms as director of research and postgraduate education for his university's Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry.



Randy C. Ploetz
University of Florida

Randy Christopher Ploetz received his B.S. and M.Sc. degrees in forestry and plant pathology from Purdue University and his Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of Florida (UF). After a post-doc in Quincy, he joined the Tropical Research and Education Center of UF in 1986, where he was promoted to full professor in 1996. He conducts research on diseases of crops in south Florida, with an emphasis on the etiology, epidemiology, and management of diseases of tropical fruit. He has mentored 35 graduate students and 5 post-docs and has written several hundred scientific and popular articles and four books. He has served APS in diverse capacities and received the UF Research Foundation Professorship Award in 2004, the SPP Award in 2011, and the APS Excellence in International Service Award in 2008.

APS Awards

Fellows continued



John C. Rupe
University of Arkansas

John Clark Rupe received a B.A. degree in biology from Goshen College, a B.S. degree in plant pathology from Colorado State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology from the University of Kentucky. Rupe has dedicated his professional career to studying soybean diseases. He is well known for his pioneering work on soybean sudden death syndrome and

has also focused on Phomopsis seed decay, frogeye leaf spot, charcoal rot, and seedling diseases. Rupe has collaborated extensively with soybean breeders to improve disease resistance. Rupe has been active within APS; he coedited the fourth and fifth editions of the *Compendium of Soybean Diseases*, served as a senior editor of *Plant Disease*, and has served on numerous APS committees. He is a devoted teacher and mentor and has developed strong working relationships with soybean growers and commodity groups. Rupe's exceptional career has increased the exposure of plant pathology among key stakeholders nationwide.



Raymond W. Schneider
Louisiana State University

Raymond W. Schneider is professor of plant pathology and soybean pathologist at Louisiana State University. He received his B.S. degree in biology and chemistry from the University of Alabama in 1969 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology from the University of Illinois in 1971 and 1973, respectively. He was a post-doctoral researcher at the University

of California (UC)-Davis from 1973 to 1976 and was on the faculty at UC-Berkeley from 1976 to 1984. His career has involved conducting fundamental research on applied problems with the ultimate goals of explaining plant disease occurrences and discovering innovative solutions for diverse, challenging disease problems. These mission-oriented research projects have led to significant advances in our understanding of host-pathogen interactions and genetics, as well as new strategies and tactics in cultural, chemical, and biological control of plant diseases. He also has been an outstanding mentor for many graduate students and has enthusiastically taught numerous undergraduate and graduate courses.



James E. Schoelz
University of Missouri-Columbia

James E. Schoelz was born in Arcadia, California. He completed his B.A. degree at Point Loma Nazarene University, a Ph.D. degree at the University of Kentucky, and post-doctoral research at Cornell University. In 1987, he joined the University of Missouri, where he was promoted to professor in 2002. Schoelz has significantly advanced our understanding

of plant-virus interactions. He was the first to use recombinant DNA techniques to identify a viral avirulence gene, showing that the P6 gene of *Cauliflower mosaic virus* was responsible for triggering a hypersensitive response in *Datura* and *Nicotiana* species and that the same gene was responsible for mosaic symptom development in susceptible

hosts. He was also the first to show that viruses could recombine with viral transgenes. His insightful use of classical genetics showed that cell death could be genetically uncoupled from resistance in the hypersensitive response to plant viruses. Schoelz has an outstanding record of teaching and leadership, including serving as department chair and recently developing a program in plant stress biology. He is a sought-after graduate student mentor and scientific collaborator and has a strong record of service to APS.



Christine D. Smart
Cornell University

Christine D. Smart was born in Minnesota and received B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Michigan State University and then was a post-doctoral research associate at the University of California-Davis and Cornell. She joined the faculty at Cornell in 2003 and was promoted to professor in 2015. She is known locally and internationally for many accomplishments, but particularly

for enhanced understanding of *Phytophthora* blight of vegetables. Her research has led to real-world solutions for vegetable diseases used by organic and conventional producers. She instills a love of science and agriculture in people of all ages, starting with third and fourth graders in her local public schools and the undergraduates in her summer scholars program. Her tireless contributions to APS, to agricultural stakeholders, and to education in plant pathology make her well-deserving of the APS Fellow award.



George W. Sundin
Michigan State University

George W. Sundin was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and received a B.S. degree in biology from The Pennsylvania State University in 1986, an M.S. degree in plant pathology from Michigan State University in 1989, and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from Oklahoma State University in 1994. He is currently a professor in the Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial

Sciences at Michigan State University. Sundin is an internationally recognized plant bacteriologist whose major research focus is on fire blight disease and the causal bacterial pathogen *Erwinia amylovora*. His work spans from the molecular to the field level, with equal contributions from both areas. Sundin is also a well-known extension specialist covering tree fruit diseases and their control in Michigan and regionally. Sundin has volunteered with APS in many roles, including councilor and president of the North Central Division and editor-in-chief of *Phytopathology*. On the basis of his wide-ranging contributions to plant bacteriology, tree fruit pathology, extension, student, and post-doctoral education, and APS, Sundin exhibits all of the characteristics of an APS Fellow.

Award of Distinction

This award, the highest honor the Society can bestow, is presented on rare occasions to persons who have made truly exceptional contributions to plant pathology.



Steven E. Lindow
University of California-Berkeley

Steven E. Lindow, chancellor's professor at the University of California-Berkeley, is among the world's preeminent authorities in plant pathology and phyllosphere microbiology. His contributions, described in more than 175 research publications and 70 reviews, have provided unprecedented insight into the complex interactions between plants, microbes, and the environment. His findings have opened new fields of research, with major impacts on plant pathology and microbiology. In addition to his remarkable research productivity, Lindow has demonstrated a strong commitment to classroom teaching and to graduate student and post-doctoral scholar mentoring, as well as service to university, professional societies, and national and international decision-making bodies. Lindow has never lost his focus on solving problems affecting production agriculture. He has repeatedly found ways to translate a deeper understanding of plant-microbe interactions into novel disease management practices. This productive marriage of basic and applied research serves as an inspiration to young scientists seeking to make a difference through a career in plant pathology.



James Van Etten
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

James Van Etten is particularly known for his work on a family of algal viruses. Discovered in the 1980s, these viruses are ubiquitous in fresh water worldwide. They are among the largest viruses known (about 370 kb) and code for up to 400 proteins and 16 tRNA genes. These polyhedral, plaque-forming, dsDNA viruses replicate in certain eukaryotic unicellular *Chlorella*-like green algae. They encode for DNA modification and restriction systems, including a new source of type II DNA restriction endonucleases of commercial interest and the first sources from a nonprokaryotic system. They also encode components required to glycosylate their proteins, which are the smallest or among the smallest proteins of their class. The plaque assay, the ability to synchronously infect the host, the short life cycle and the ability of the viruses to undergo homologous recombination have made them excellent model systems for studying DNA replication and gene expression in an aquatic plant.

APS 2015-2016 Division Awardees

The following individuals were recognized throughout the past year at APS Division meetings for their contributions to the science of plant pathology, as well as to APS and in particular to their divisions.

Caribbean Division July 2015

Student Oral Competition Awards

FIRST PLACE:

Arturo Castro Rocha, Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez

SECOND PLACE:

Lorena Simbaña-Carrera, University of Puerto Rico

THIRD PLACE:

Alejandra Contreras Rendon, Universidad Autonoma del Estado de Mexico

Travel Awards

Stephanie Fuentes, University of Puerto Rico

Nelson Laville, Universidad Autonoma Chapingo

Cecilia Monclova-Santana, University of Puerto Rico

North Central Division June 2015

Early Career Award

Amanda Gevens, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Student Oral Competition Awards

FIRST PLACE

Ryan Humann, North Dakota State University

SECOND PLACE

Jessica Rupp, Kansas State University

THIRD PLACE

Zach Noel, Michigan State University

Student Poster Awards

FIRST PLACE

Alejandra Rojas, Michigan State University

SECOND PLACE

Saltanet Mambetova, Michigan State University

THIRD PLACE (tie)

Luisa Castiblanco, Michigan State University

Jacqueline Huzar Novakowiski, Michigan State University

Travel Awards (continued from North Central)

Elizabeth Crane, North Dakota State

University

Jaqueline Huzar Novakowiski, The Ohio State University

Joseph Ikley, Purdue University

Jared Jensen, Iowa State University

Thomas Miorini, University of Nebraska

Jeffrey Nian, University of Illinois

Paul Okello, South Dakota State University

Xavier Phillips, Iowa State University

Martha Romero, Purdue University

Jessica Rupp, Kansas State University

Marissa Scherven, University of Minnesota

Sarah Schlund, University of Nebraska

Chryseis Tvedt, North Dakota State University

Blake Webster, University of Minnesota

Northeastern Division January 2016

Graduate Student Presentation Award

Sarah Bardsley, Pennsylvania State

University

Poster Competition (tie)

Adrienne Gorny, Cornell University

Jennie Mazzone, The Pennsylvania State University

Pacific Division August 2015

Student Oral Competition Awards

FIRST PLACE

Javier Tabima, Oregon State University

SECOND PLACE

Lindsay Thiessen, Oregon State University

THIRD PLACE

Erin Gunnink Troth, Montana State University

Travel Awards

Alfredo Diaz Lara, Oregon State University

Andrea Garfinkel, Washington State University

Zhian Kamvar, Oregon State University

Gurleen Kaur, New Mexico State University

Kathleen McKeever, Washington State

University

Javier Tabima, Oregon State University

Erin Gunnink Troth, Montana State University

Lindsey Thiessen, Oregon State University

Potomac Division March 2016

Distinguished Service Award

Nina Shishkoff, USDA ARS FDWSRU

Graduate Student Research Awards

FIRST PLACE

Jake Jones, University of Delaware

SECOND PLACE

Sara Klee, The Pennsylvania State University

Travel Awards

Bhupendra Acharya, Virginia Tech

Tian Zhou, Virginia Tech

Southern Division February 2016

Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award

David B. Langston, Jr., Virginia Tech

Donald M. Ferrin Memorial Service Award

Kenneth W. Seebold, Jr., Valent USA

Graduate Student Research Awards

FIRST PLACE

Eduardo Chagas Ferreira Da Silva, Louisiana State University

SECOND PLACE

Jeffrey R. Standish, University of Georgia

THIRD PLACE

Whit Ables, Mississippi State University

HONORABLE MENTION

Jake Fountain, University of Georgia

Travel Awards

Eduardo Chagas Ferreira da Silva, Louisiana State University

Utsala Shresta, University of Tennessee

Tessie Wilkerson, Mississippi State University