The American Phytopathological Society

2011 Awards & Honors Ceremony

Sunday, August 7, 2011
Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.

2011 Awards & Honors Ceremony

Sunday, August 7, 2011
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

APS Early Career Recognition

John Sherwood, APS President

- International Travel Award
- APS Foundation 11th I. E. Melhus Graduate Symposium Awards
- APS Foundation Raymond J. Tarleton Student Fellowship Award
- APS Foundation Schroth Faces of the Future Early Career Professionals Symposium Awards
- APS Public Policy Early Career Internship
- APS Foundation Student Travel Awards

Presentation of the APS Awards

Barb Christ, APS Past President

- APS Fellows
- Excellence in Extension Award
- Excellence in Industry Award
- Excellence in Teaching Award
- International Service Award
- Ruth Allen Award
- Lee M. Hutchins Award
- Noel T. Keen Award for Research Excellence in Molecular Plant Pathology
- Syngenta Award

APS Early Career Recognition

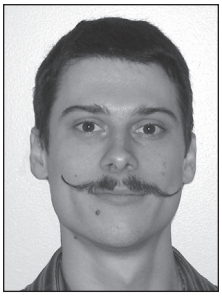
International Travel Award

Carlos A. Perez
University of the Republic of Uruguay

The APS Foundation, in cooperation with the Office of International Programs, has established this travel fund to support travel costs for early- to mid-career international APS members to participate in an APS Annual Meeting. This fund is intended to support scientists native to and working in developing countries who otherwise would not be able to attend APS meetings.

11th I. E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium Awards

This prestigious symposium features presentations on graduate thesis work highlighting research aimed at providing a better understanding of the epidemiology and management of plant diseases. The symposium is named in honor of Irving E. Melhus, a renowned teacher and outstanding researcher and pioneer in the field of plant pathology at what was then Iowa State College.



Daniel J. Anco
The Ohio State University

Sydney E. Everhart
University of Georgia

Andrew V. Gougherty
Iowa State University

Alissa B. Kriss
The Ohio State University

Raymond J. Tarleton Student Fellowship Award

Sydney E. Everhart
University of Georgia

This fellowship, awarded for the first time in 2010, 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.

Schroth Faces of the Future Early Career Professionals Symposium Awards

The Schroth Faces of the Future in Nematology Symposium is designed to acknowledge the "up and comers" in nematology. The awardees have the opportunity to highlight their current work and speculate on the future directions of their discipline. This symposium was made possible by a generous donation from Milt and Nancy Schroth. Milt Schroth is an internationally known expert on bacterial diseases, systematics, and biocontrol.

Paula Agudelo
Clemson University

Axel Elling
Washington State University

Fatma Kaplan
USDA ARS

APS Public Policy Early Career Internship

Melanie Lewis Ivey
The Ohio State University

The goal of the APS Public Policy Early Career Internship is to provide an opportunity for the selected individual to gain 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, the intern learns how scientific societies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), executive branch agencies (e.g., USDA, NSF, EPA, etc.), and the legislative branch interact in crafting public policy.

APS Early Career Recognition

Student Travel Awards

The APS Foundation is pleased to provide APS Annual Meeting Named Student Travel Awards to the following 39 individuals, selected out of a competitive pool of nearly 80 applicants. Special thanks to APS Council for their additional contributions in 2011 to increase the amount and number of awards provided.

The José and Silvia Amador Award
Kishore Chittem
North Dakota State University

The Elsie J. and Robert Aycock Award
Anne M. Vitoreli
University of Florida

The Kenneth F. Baker and R. James Cook Award
Cassandra L. Swett
University of California-Davis

The John M. Barnes Award
Tracy Bruns
Iowa State University

The Myron K. Brakke Award
Mauricio Montero Astúa
Kansas State University

The William Malcolm Brown, Jr. Award
Jeremiah K. S. Dung
Washington State University

The J. Artie and Arra Browning Award
Kaoutar El Mounadi
Southern Illinois University

The C. Lee Campbell Award
Katie N. Neufeld
North Carolina State University

The Caribbean Division Award
Sudarsana Poojari
Washington State University

The Gustaaf A. and Ineke C. M. de Zoeten Award
Andrea L. Vu
University of Tennessee

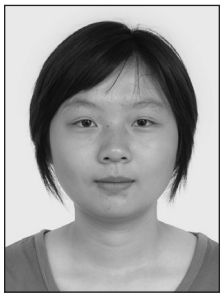
The Dow AgroSciences Award
Brandon Smythe
New Mexico State University

The H. J. Dubin Student Travel Award in honor of the Peace Corps
Sasha C. Marine
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

The Eddie Echandi Award
Stephanie L. Slinski
University of California-Davis

The Zahir Eyal Award
Tomas Allen Rush
Louisiana State University

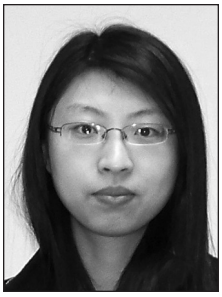
The John F. Fulkerson Award
Cristina Pisani
University of California-Davis



The Joseph P. Fulton Award
Yu Zhang
Missouri State University

The Robert W. Fulton Award
John Gottula
Cornell University

The Richard L. Gabrielson Award
Haili Li
New Mexico State University



The Efrat Gamliel-Atinsky Award
Wenting Li
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The Raymond G. Grogan Award
Hehe Wang
Ohio State University

The Janell M. Stevens Johnk Award
Maxwell D. Gilley
Mississippi State University

The Stephen A. Johnston Award
Jonathan E. Oliver
Cornell University

The Arthur Kelman Award
Jonathon Mixon
University of Tennessee

The Kyung Soo Kim Award
Heather M. Young
University of Florida

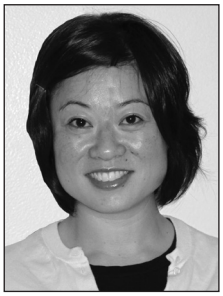
The Evanthia D. and D. G. Kontaxis Award
Jeremy Warren
University of California-Davis

The Tsune Kosuge Award
Lindsey P. Burbank
University of California-Riverside

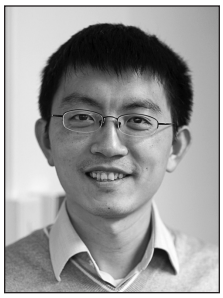
The Landis International Award
Julia M. Crane
Cornell University

The Don E. Mathre Award
Nenad Tatalovic
Iowa State University

The Donald E. Munnecke Award
Kazi T. Islam
Southern Illinois University

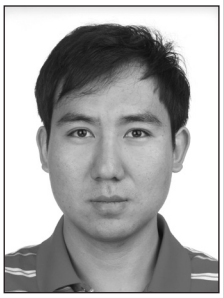


The John S. Niederhauser Award
Lydia Tymon
Washington State University



The Albert Paulus Award
Bin Tian
Penn State University

The Malcolm and Catherine Quigley Award
Timothy D. Miles
Michigan State University

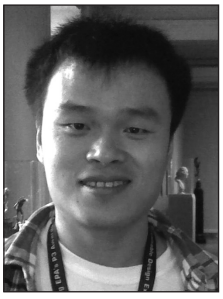


The Milt and Nancy Schroth Award
Fan Yang
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The Luis Sequeira Award
Laura L. Avila
Michigan State University

The Malcolm C. Shurtleff Award
Sara Thomas
University of Georgia

The George Herman Starr Award
Ansuya Jogi
University of Georgia



The H. David Thurston Award
Liangliang Gao
University of Minnesota

The Turfgrass Pathology Award
Renee Rioux
University of Wisconsin

The Virology Award
Alma G. Laney
University of Arkansas

APS Awards

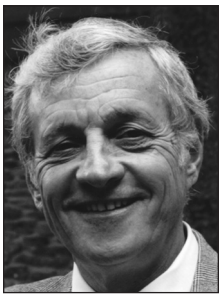
APS Fellows

The society grants this honor to a current APS member in recognition of distinguished contributions to plant pathology or to The American Phytopathological Society.

James R. Alfano was born in Burbank, CA. He received a B.S. degree in microbiology from San Diego State University in 1986 and a Ph.D. degree in microbiology from Washington State University in 1993 and he was a post-doctoral research associate in the Department of Plant Pathology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (1993–1997). From 1997 to 2000, he was an assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. In 2000, he moved to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he is now the Charles Bessey professor in the Center for Plant Science Innovation and the Department of Plant Pathology. Alfano has made important contributions to our understanding of the type III secretion system in *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato* DC3000. He led collaborative efforts to characterize the Hrp pathogenicity island of DC3000 and to identify more than 30 type III effector genes in the DC3000 genome based on targeting-associated amino-acid patterns and tests for effector translocation into plant cells and systematically analyzed these proteins for their ability to suppress different levels of plant defense. Alfano has determined environmental conditions that favor effector secretion in culture and the role of chaperones and traffic control and translocator proteins in effector delivery. He also has made important discoveries regarding the function of two effectors, HopAO1, a protein tyrosine phosphatase, and HopU1, a mono-ADP-ribosyltransferase that targets at least one *Arabidopsis thaliana* RNA-binding protein with a role in plant defense. Alfano teaches multiple courses and is a senior editor for *Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions*.

Judith K. Brown was born in Youngstown, OH, and moved at a young age to Scottsdale, AZ, where she was raised as a "desert girl." She received her B.S. degree from Texas A&M University, an M.S. degree from Washington State University, and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Arizona (1984). She was a post-doctoral associate and research professor until 1999 when she joined the Plant Sciences Faculty, advancing to full professor in 2004. Brown is a world authority on whitefly-transmitted viruses and vector biotypes. She has visited, lectured, and studied emerging diseases in 63 countries and carries out collaborative research in Asia, Africa, and Tropical Americas. She recognized early that DNA-based methods would transform differentiation of vector haplotypes and viral population studies, and she applied them concomitantly to explore whitefly and begomovirus diversification globally, developing extensive molecular databases still employed worldwide. Since 1990, she has delivered 50 invited international and 83 national/in-state presentations. Brown is a prolific author with more than 111 journal articles, 11 book chapters, eight reviews, 20 proceedings, 38 disease reports, and more than 250 abstracts. She has received numerous rewards. Her laboratory has hosted more than 50 visiting scholars or graduate students from 14 countries. She is an active APS member, having served as Caribbean Division councilor (2001–2006), member and chair (2005) of the Virology Committee, member of the Emerging Pathogens and Diseases Committee (2004–present), Office of International Programs (1996–1999; 2009–present), and chair of the Vector-Pathogen Complexes Committee. Brown was associate editor of *Phytopathology* (2000–2003) and *Plant Disease* (2007–2009) and is an APS PRESS senior editor.

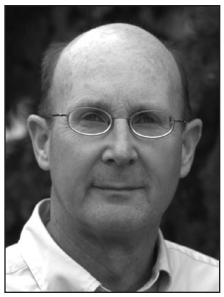
Lynda M. Ciuffetti was born in Fitchburg, MA, and earned a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from Purdue University in 1983. She was a post-doctoral associate at Brandeis University and Cornell University before joining the faculty of Oregon State University (OSU) in 1990. She became chair/head of the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at OSU in 2008. Ciuffetti is an internationally known authority on molecular host–pathogen interactions. She has done landmark studies on host-specific toxins produced by *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis*, the wheat tan spot pathogen. Ciuffetti's group established the importance of genotype when characterizing the race structure of *P. tritici-repentis* and production of HSTs, identified the *ToxA* gene, demonstrated that ToxA is necessary and sufficient to cause necrosis in susceptible wheat, and characterized its mechanism of action. Ciuffetti is an exceptional teacher and mentor of undergraduates, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows. Her passion for science, the excellence of her research group, and her teaching contributions are legendary at OSU. Ciuffetti has a superb record of professional service, including as a member of the Oregon Board of Higher Education, president of the Faculty Senate at OSU, and chair of the OSU Graduate Council. She served as a chair or member of 11 national panels for federal funding agencies, section chair on the Scientific Program Board of APS, and associate editor of *Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions*. Ciuffetti's scientific contributions have been recognized with an NSF CAREER Award and numerous awards from OSU, including the OSU Alumni Distinguished Professor Award in 2010.



Thomas L. German was born in Aurora, IL, and raised in Eau Claire, WI. He holds a B.S. degree in zoology and secondary education (biology and chemistry), an M.S. degree in biological sciences, and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology. He taught high school biology, worked on several post-doctoral projects, and served as a faculty member at the University of Hawaii and University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he also served as director of the Wisconsin Seed Potato Certification Program, chair of the Department of Plant Pathology, and then chair of the Department Entomology. Throughout his career,

German reached for excellence, focusing on asking insightful questions and tirelessly working toward understanding very difficult problems. He worked on the cutting edge of virology to answer fundamental and applied questions spanning many plant viruses (e.g., *Pea enation mosaic virus*, *Brome mosaic virus*, *Tomato spotted wilt virus*), the animal-infecting scrapie agent, and diverse seed potato pathogens. His early discoveries presaged contemporary work on viral-membrane-bound replication factories, and properties of viral RNA and viral polymerases, as well as contributing procedures aiding discovery of prions. He is best known for tremendously advancing knowledge of the *Tomato spotted wilt virus* genome, biology, and thrips vector relationships, including virus replication in thrips, and the role of membrane glycoproteins in virus acquisition. German is richly deserving of recognition as an APS fellow for his exemplary performance as an educator and a mentor, depth and breadth in basic and applied research in virology and seed potato pathology, outreach, administration, and professional service.

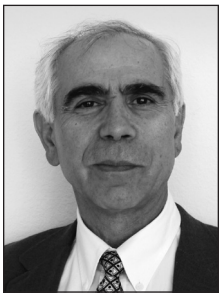
Maria Lodovica Gullino is a professor and the vice rector of Torino University. Her research covers a variety of fundamental and applied topics. These include works on fungicide resistance, exploring the mechanisms and seeking strategies to cope with this resistance, and on biological and integrated control, from fundamental work on mechanisms, suppressiveness, and improvement of biocontrol through genetic manipulation to application in the field as well as incorporation of biocontrol in integrated pest management strategies through a holistic approach. She has studied many aspects of ecology, etiology, epidemiology, management, and molecular diagnosis of soilborne pathogens. She is heavily involved in teaching, both at her university and at an international level. Gullino's close cooperation with the agricultural community, the public, extension, and industry sectors on such topics as plant protection, environment, agriculture, and policy is remarkable. She organized and chaired the 9th International Congress of Plant Pathology. In 2002, together with A. Garibaldi, she established AGRINNOVA at the University of Torino, a "Centre of Competence" devoted to basic and applied research, knowledge and technology transfer, and dissemination of results in the agro-environment and agro-food arenas. She is AGRINNOVA's director. She has been president of the Italian Society of Plant Protection and of the Italian Association of the Scientific Societies in Agricultural Sciences, as well as vice president and currently president (until 2013) of the International Society of Plant Pathology. Throughout her career, Gullino has demonstrated strong scientific and managerial leadership. Her scientific output includes hundreds of refereed papers, disease notes, reviews, books, and book chapters.



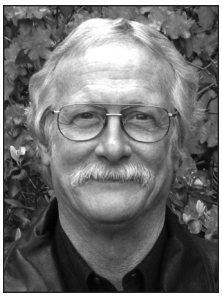
Dennis A. Johnson earned a B.S. degree in botany from Brigham Young University and M.S. (1975) and Ph.D. (1978) degrees in plant pathology from the University of Minnesota. He was hired as an assistant plant pathologist at Washington State University in 1980 and was promoted to associate professor in 1984 and full professor in 1990. Johnson conducts a highly productive research and extension program on diseases of potato and mint. He has made key contributions to the epidemiology and management of late blight, black dot, and white mold of potato and of Verticillium wilt of mint and potato. Important scientific contributions have been made in disease forecasting, quantitative characterization of spatial patterns of diseased plants, characterization of partial resistance, and the etiology of *Phytophthora infestans* from latently infected potato seed tubers. His late blight forecasting models have been successfully used in the Columbia Basin for 15 years. His model for timing fungicide applications for potato white mold has saved growers in Washington State more than $7.64 million annually since 2005. He has authored 108 peer-reviewed research journal articles; more than 250 extension publications; several sections in APS disease compendia on potato, hop, and onion; and edited the second edition of *Potato Health Management*. He has served on several APS committees and was APS Pacific Division president (2008–2009). He is an honorary life member of the Potato Association of America and a recipient of the Friend of the Mint Industry Award.

Yin-Won Lee was born in Chungnam Province, South Korea, and received a B.S. degree in agricultural biology from Seoul National University (SNU) in 1974. In 1984, he received his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from the University of Minnesota for his work on *Fusarium* mycotoxins, under the guidance of Chester Mirocha. He returned to SNU and achieved the rank of full professor in 1996 and of department chair of applied biology and chemistry in 2004. Today, Lee is recognized as one of the world's leading experts on the genus *Fusarium* and *Fusarium* mycotoxins. He and his colleagues have done elegant work on the discovery, chemical identification, toxicology, genetic control, and biosynthetic machinery of many important mycotoxins, such as deoxynivalenol, nivalenol, zearalenone, fusarochromanone, sambutoxin, the fumonisin C series, and apicidin. Lee and coworkers also made very significant contributions to basic studies of *Fusarium* biology. For example, they were the first to disable the self-fertilizing capacity of homothallic strains of *F. graminearum*, which rendered the strains much more amenable to genetic studies. Lee has mentored five post-doctoral researchers, 10 Ph.D. students, and 26 M.S. students. He set up two new research centers, the Center for Agricultural Biomaterials and the Center for Fungal Pathogenesis, at SNU. Finally, as the long-time editor-in-chief and editor, he was key to the growth and international success of *The Plant Pathology Journal*,

formerly known as the *Korean Journal of Plant Pathology*. For all these reasons, Lee is truly deserving of the title of fellow of The American Phytopathological Society.



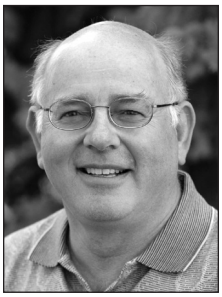
Themis J. Michailides was born in Argos Orestikon, Greece. He received an M.S. degree in agriculture development and irrigation from the Agricultural University in Athens, Greece, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology from the University of California (UC), Davis. After post-doctoral appointments at Oregon State University, Hood River, and UC Davis, he joined the faculty in the Department of Plant Pathology, UC Berkeley, in 1989 and was promoted to associate plant pathologist in 1992. With the transfer of ag-related research and extension programs from Berkeley to the Davis campus, Michailides was assigned to the Department of Plant Pathology, UC Davis, and has since been a plant pathologist at the Kearney Agricultural Center with research responsibilities in fruit and nut crop diseases. Michailides is a leading authority in fungal fruit tree pathology and is recognized nationally and internationally for his innovating studies of using latent infection to predict and manage efficiently devastating diseases of stone fruit, vines, and tree nut crops. He has made major contributions in understanding and determining the mechanisms of fungicide resistance to benzimidazoles, strobilurins, and carboxamides in globally distributed pathogens, such as *Monilinia fructicola*, *M. laxa*, *Botrytis cinerea*, and *Alternaria alternata*. He has been successful for using both conventional and molecular techniques to solve applied plant pathological problems. He has helped the pistachio industry to reduce aflatoxins by identifying the "Achilles heel" of aflatoxin contamination. Michailides' academic achievements are reflected by his more than 180 articles published in refereed journals.



Thomas J. Wolpert received his B.S. degree in psychology/zoology from the University of Nebraska and completed an M.S. degree in plant physiology and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology at Purdue University. In 1989, Wolpert joined the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Oregon State University, where he is now a professor. Wolpert has developed an international reputation for his contributions to our understanding of the molecular mechanisms of host–pathogen interactions through his meticulous studies of host-selective toxin biology and programmed cell death of plants. Much of his work has focused on the action of victorin, a host-selective fungal toxin, and its pathogenic role in oats and *Arabidopsis*. His work resulted in purification and characterization of victorin, determination of its mechanism of action in plant mitochondria, and identification of key similarities between genes for susceptibility and genes for resistance. His research has been supported by numerous competitive grants from both the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Wolpert has presented his research at the most prestigious forums and is very well known for asking highly insightful questions over a very broad range of topics. Wolpert has also made substantial contributions to both teaching and service, and his exceptional mentoring skills have contributed substantially to the success of members of his laboratory. He has served as chair and is currently a member of the APS Molecular and Cellular Phytopathology Committee and has also served on numerous departmental and university committees, editorial boards, and grant panels.

Excellence in Extension Award

This award recognizes excellence in extension plant pathology.



Gary A. Chastagner was born in Woodland, CA. He received an A.A. degree in natural science from Sacramento City College, a B.A. degree in biology and industrial arts from California State University-Fresno, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology from the University of California-Davis, where he was also a post-doctoral fellow. He joined the faculty at Washington State University in 1978 at the Research and Extension Center in Puyallup, WA, working on ornamental bulb and turfgrass diseases. He added responsibility for Christmas trees in 1980, hybrid poplars in 1988, and sudden oak death in 2003. Promoted to professor in 1998, he currently has statewide research and extension responsibilities for ornamental bulbs, Christmas trees, and sudden oak death. Chastagner leads a highly respected and productive extension and research program with international impact. He has received more than $5.7 million in competitive and noncompetitive funding, published 70 peer-reviewed papers, 23 nonrefereed professional papers, 27 extension bulletins, nine web pages, one educational video, nine book chapters, 70 technical publications, and 93 popular articles and has given more than 600 presentations to regional, national, and international audiences. He has partnered with the Christmas tree industry and fire regulatory agencies to develop educational brochures and community service programs dealing with proper tree care and fire safety. Chastagner served as APS Pacific Division secretary/treasurer, president, and councilor. He chaired the APS Diseases of Ornamental Plants and the former Diseases of Ornamental Plants and Turfgrasses Committees, and he chaired the APS Pacific Division Student Travel Award and Lifetime Achievement Award Committees.

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 nonprofit.

William E. Dolezal was born in Omaha, NE, and received his B.S. degree in biology from Rockhurst College in Kansas City. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. It was there that Dolezal developed his love of plant breeding and disease resistance. His career at Pioneer Hi-Bred International began in 1981 as a research plant pathologist in Union City, TN. He was transferred to Johnston, IA, in 1994 and promoted to research fellow. His research has included working with most major pathogens of maize and sorghum and working with plant breeders in mapping of quantitative trait loci (QTL) of disease resistance genes. Under his guidance, Pioneer achieved USDA APHIS PPQ National Seed Health System accreditation. He continues to work with Pioneer's worldwide pathology network on disease and phytosanitary issues. Dolezal has been an active member of APS for more than 30 years, serving on the APS Industry and the Collections and Germplasm Committees, the ad-hoc APS/ISF collaboration on codification of plant races and strains and advisory committee on plant biosecurity, and the APS Public Policy Board. He has been actively involved in enhancing public/private collaborations, including support to USDA's GEM and PIPE programs, and the National Plant Disease Recovery System (NPDRS). Dolezal is the past chair of the American Seed Trade Association's Phytosanitary Committee and a member of the USDA Maize Crop Germplasm Committee. He has served as a technical reviewer in several USDA-ARS National Program reviews and as an active participant in several APS educational workshops.

Excellence in Teaching Award

This award recognizes excellence in teaching plant pathology.

Lori Carris earned a B.S. degree in horticulture at Michigan State University (1979), an M.S. degree in plant pathology at Washington State University (WSU) (1983), and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology at the University of Illinois (1986). Since 1989, she has been in the Department of Plant Pathology at WSU, where she is an associate professor with research and teaching responsibilities in systematic mycology. Carris has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in mycology and fungal biology and an entry-level class for nonscience majors entitled Molds, Mildews, Mushrooms: The Fifth Kingdom, which has become one of the most popular courses in the college. Carris is an effective teacher who commits tremendous effort and time to the development and continuous improvement of her courses. She is much admired for her excellence in teaching and the passion and enthusiasm she transmits to students. Carris is also recognized for her mentoring of graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and junior faculty. She received the 2007 Mentor of the Year Award from WSU, the 2009 WSU Woman of Distinction Award for her work on women's issues, and the 2010 R. M. Wade Excellence in Teaching Award in the WSU College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences. She was graduate coordinator for the Department of Plant Pathology from 2000 to 2010, teaches mushroom identification courses for the community, and leads spring and fall mushroom forays for the Palouse Mycological Association.

APS Awards

International Service Award

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

Mohammad Babadoost was born near Tabriz, Iran, and received his B.S. degree from the University of Tabriz (UT), an M.S. degree from Washington State University, and a Ph.D. degree from North Carolina State University. From 1983 to 1994, he was an assistant/associate professor at UT and then a research pathologist at Montana State University (MSU) until 1999, when he joined the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois, where he does research and extension on vegetable and fruit crop diseases and teaches plant disease diagnosis. Babadoost has a profound commitment to aid developing countries in improving crop management. At UT, he helped to establish the graduate program in plant pathology, advised graduate students, and established research programs. His research on Karnal bunt at MSU resulted in an assay method for *Tilletia indica* in soil, which is used worldwide. In the past eight years, he was invited to teach plant pathology, conduct research, train extension educators, review proposals, and make presentations in 16 countries. Babadoost has made many contributions to APS. Since 2003, he has been serving as the coordinator of the Office of International Programs (OIP) Library Assistance/Donation Program and has sent 1,011 books, 1,889 volumes of journals, and other educational materials to 93 universities and research institutes in 61 countries. He has been active on APS committees and currently serves as an APS representative to the International Society of Plant Pathology. He organized two symposia emphasizing international issues and served as a section editor for *Fungicide and Nematicide Tests*.

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.

Valerian V. Dolja received his M.S., Ph.D., and D.Sc. degrees from Moscow State University (MSU). He was a research scientist and senior research scientist at MSU from 1980 to 1991 and a research scientist at Texas A&M University from 1991 to 1994. In 1994, he joined the faculty at Oregon State University (OSU), where he is now a professor. Dolja is one of those extremely rare scientists who combines broad and wide-open scholarship with uncompromisingly rigorous experimentation and conceptual thinking. In Moscow, his group provided pioneering contributions to the molecular biology of hordeiviruses and closteroviruses. In Texas, he succeeded in generating tagged infectious cDNA clones for *Tobacco etch virus*, which transformed the work in the lab and enabled a series of discoveries about the infection cycles of this large virus family. The papers that emerged from his potyvirus work are among the most highly cited publications in the plant virus field from that era. Once at OSU, Dolja produced the most informative work available to dissect genome structure, replication and function, virion assembly and movement, virus–cell interactions, and defense suppression of closteroviruses. More recently, he used insightful observations from his work to develop closteroviruses into tools of plant biotechnology and to determine the functions of the plant myosin motors in virus and cell biology. He also has contributed substantially to deciphering the evolutionary history of viruses, including landmark 1993 and 2006 syntheses on virus origins and role in life evolution. He is a highly sought-after speaker at national and international meetings and a wonderful, community-minded colleague at OSU.

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).

Guido Schnabel was born in Marburg, Germany, and received his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart in 1997. Thereafter, Schnabel was a post-doctoral research associate at Michigan State University before beginning his position in 2000 as the fruit pathologist at Clemson University. South Carolina and Georgia are the second- and third-highest peach-producing states in the United States. Thus, Schnabel focused his research and extension program on brown rot of peach, caused by *Monilinia fructicola*, and specifically on managing isolates with reduced sensitivity to demethylation-inhibitor (DMI) fungicides. Schnabel's lab was the first to discover that over-expression of the DMI resistance gene *cyp51* encoding the 14-α demethylase in *M. fructicola* was caused by transposons carrying promoter sequences. The transposon named "Mona" was found in isolates from five states and provided the basis for rapid molecular identification of resistance. Because growers need to adjust fungicide applications based on the sensitivity or resistance of *M. fructicola* in their orchards, Schnabel and his colleagues developed a novel fungicide resistance assay kit trademarked as "Profile" that provides a customized sensitivity profile for an orchard. After the results are entered online, a customized fungicide program is relayed to the grower. This program saved producers an estimated $7–10 million in 2009, when a brown rot epidemic did not occur in the Southeast despite conducive weather. Because peaches receive regular applications of fungicides, the "Profile" kits reduce pesticide use by preventing application of ineffective fungicides and minimizing the risk of fungicide resistance while improving brown rot control.

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.

Daniel Klessig's work over the past 36 years includes more than 215 publications, which encompass both animal and plant fields. As a student studying gene regulation in human adenovirus with J. D. Watson, he helped uncover split genes and proposed the model of RNA splicing to explain this phenomenon, as well as the existence of hnRNA. This pioneering work also established that gene expression can be regulated by alternative splicing. In addition, Klessig's work provided the first rigorous demonstration of translational regulation and its importance in plants. Since the mid-1980s, Klessig has made major contributions to our understanding of how plants protect themselves against microbial pathogens, and he is internationally recognized for his pioneering work in this area. Klessig's laboratory was first to demonstrate that salicylic acid is a critical endogenous signaling molecule for the activation of plant defenses following pathogen infection, the first to purify and establish a defense-related function for plant MAP kinases, and the first to establish a defense-related function for nitric oxide in plants. In recent breakthrough studies, his group has demonstrated that methyl salicylate is a mobile signal required for induction of systemic acquired resistance; they have also identified a key factor that is involved at four levels of plant immunity. Together, these discoveries have helped establish that plants and animals share many aspects of immunity, a finding that is likely to have a significant impact on human, as well as plant, health.

Syngenta Award

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

Amy Charkowski has unusually broad accomplishments at this relatively early stage of her career. She has combined important discoveries about the molecular basis of soft rot diseases with the development of tools to reduce crop losses. Charkowski is a truly translational researcher; her mind naturally connects her fundamental research discoveries to disease management strategies. She is an adept collaborator, a determined problem solver, and an inspiring mentor. Her publications document her consistently creative approaches. For example, by surveying whole populations of soft rot bacteria from a field rather than studying a few isolates back in the lab, she discovered a hitherto-unsuspected diversity of pectobacteria, a finding with major implications for resistance breeding and pathogen detection. Similarly, her genome research was framed by the puzzling niche specificity of pathogens in the field. Charkowski also directs the Wisconsin Seed Potato Certification Program, a cornucopia of new pathogen finds and field observations that she has used as a rich source of research ideas and practical focus. Her CV juxtaposes papers on gene regulation mechanisms with papers on managing potato pink eye. In addition to her talent for biological insight, she is good with people. The potato growers love her dedication to the humble potato, and her students love her passion for research. In this age of collaborative teams and integrated projects, Charkowski's outstanding interpersonal skills will ensure her ongoing success. This exceptional young plant pathologist is highly deserving of the APS Syngenta Award.

APS 2010–2011 Division Awards

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 division.

Caribbean Division
March 2011

Frederick L. Wellman Award
Ronald Brlansky, University of Florida

Award of Appreciation
Julio Bird, University of Puerto Rico (retired)

Special Student Travel Award
Karla Zeron, Zamorano University

Student Oral Presentation Awards
First Place
Jessica Torres, University of Puerto Rico

Second Place
Veronica Rivera, University of Puerto Rico

Third Place
Gabriela Romero, University of Puerto Rico

Student Poster Presentation Awards
First Place
Carlos Bolanos, University of Puerto Rico

Second Place
Karla Zeron, Zamorano University

Third Place
Monica Mbui, University of Puerto Rico

North Central Division
June 2010

Distinguished Service Award
William Bockus, Kansas State University

Student Oral Competition Awards
First Place
Kim Chapman, Purdue University

Second Place
Andrew Friskop, North Dakota State University

Third Place
Jafe Weem, University of Illinois

Student Poster Awards
First Place
Yen Wi Chang, North Dakota State University

Second Place (tied)
Somwattie Pooran DeSouza, North Dakota State University
Anna Seidl, University of Wisconsin

Student Travel Awards
Nathan Bestor, Iowa State University
Yen Wi Chang, North Dakota State University
Kim Chapman, Purdue University
Andrew Friskop, North Dakota State University
Vivek Gupta, South Dakota State University
Suraj Gurung, North Dakota State University
Yuba Kandel, South Dakota State University
Adam Leonberger, Purdue University
Qingxiao Meng, Michigan State University
Somwattie Pooran DeSouza, North Dakota State University
Anna Seidl, University of Wisconsin
Prabin Tamang, South Dakota State University
Jafe Weems, University of Illinois

Northeastern Division
October 2010

Award of Merit
Gaston Laflamme, Canadian Forest Service

Early Career Achievement Award
Christian Andrew Wyenandt, Rutgers University

Graduate Student Presentation Award
Nicholas Brazee, University of Massachusetts

Pacific Division
June 2010

Student Paper Competition Award
First Place
Jeremiah Dung, Washington State University

Second Place
Jessica Gigot, Washington State University

Third Place
Alejandro Ortega-Beltran, University of Arizona

Student Travel Awards
Ebrahiem Babiker, Washington State University
Jeremiah Dung, Washington State University
Emily Gatch, Washington State University
Jessica Gigot, Washington State University

Potomac Division
March 2011

Distinguished Service Award
Kathryn L. Everts, University of Maryland

Graduate Student Research Awards
Sasha Marine, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Lynn Rallos, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Student Travel Awards
Jennifer Himmelstein, University of Maryland
Kun Huang, University of Delaware
Matthew Kasson, The Pennsylvania State University

Southern Division
February 2011

Graduate Student Paper Competition
First Place
Bhabesh Dutta, University of Georgia

Second Place
Andrea Payne, Oklahoma State University

Third Place
Ashok Chanda, Louisiana State University

Student and Post-Doc Travel Awards
Bhabesh Dutta, University of Georgia
Hari Karki, Louisiana State University
Rebecca Melanson, Louisiana State University
Jennifer Miller, Tarleton State University
Andrea Payne, Oklahoma State University
Bindu Poudel, University of Arkansas
Bishnu Shrestha, Louisiana State University
Nicole Ward, Louisiana State University
Washington da Silva, Louisiana State University
Everlyne Wosula, Louisiana State University
Jing Zhou, University of Arkansas