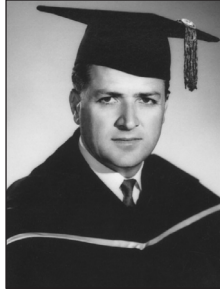


Two New APS Foundation Student Travel Funds Available

Evanthia D. and D. G. Kontaxis Student Travel Fund



Evanthia (Vanta) D. Kontaxis



D. G. Kontaxis

The APS Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of the Evanthia D. and D. G. Kontaxis Student Travel Fund. The fund was established by **D. G. Kontaxis** to honor his wife. The first travel award will be made at the 2009 APS Annual Meeting in Portland, OR.

Evanthia (Vanta) D. Kontaxis, born in Didymo-teichon-Evrou, Greece, was trained as a social worker and was a school principal of one of Queen Frederica's of Greece Northern Provinces from 1950–1958. In 1951, she met Demetrios Kontaxis who was then director

of all 10 of Queen Frederica's technical schools in the area of Orvestias Evrou, Greece. Evanthia came to California in October 1959 to study English. In December 1960, she married Kontaxis in San Francisco. Kontaxis was born in Psari-Trifilias-Greece and graduated from the Agricultural University of Athens, Greece, in 1950. In 1957, he came to California to pursue post-graduate studies in the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of California-Berkeley. He received his Ph.D. degree from the same department in 1960 under the direction of **David Schlegel**. He was then hired by the Del Monte Corporation and was sent to Hawaii to familiarize himself with pineapple and its cultivation. After 5 months, he was then transferred to the Philippines, Mindanao Island, to study the epidemiology of pink disease of the pineapple fruit and other diseases and their management. In 1973, he rejoined the University of California as the plant pathologist and nematologist in Imperial County. His sabbatical leaves took him and his wife to Almeria, Spain, and the island of Crete, Greece. In addition, they traveled extensively to many other countries over his long and distinguished career. He retired in 1991 and now is living in Concord, CA, and growing caper, many fruit trees, and ornamentals. Kontaxis worked on many diseases, including the powdery mildews of tomatoes and sugar beets, rust of asparagus, and many others. He presented his numerous research findings at professional conventions, as well as publishing in several scientific journals. The full bios of Evanthia D. and D. G. Kontaxis can be found at www.apsnet.org/foundation/awards/kontaxis.asp.

Turfgrass Pathology Student Travel Fund



The APS Foundation is pleased to announce the development of the Turfgrass Pathology Student Travel Fund. The Turfgrass Pathology Committee created this award to support outstanding turfgrass pathology students who wish to present their research at the APS annual meeting. Several donors provided the initial funds to initiate the effort; however, further contributions are needed to fully establish it as a regular award. Members are encouraged to stop by the APS Foundation booth at the annual meeting in Portland to make their donations and help establish this award for the 2010 meeting. An additional \$2,500 is needed to make this possible.

As described in the 2008 APS Symposium, "A Century of Turfgrass Pathology: Then, Now, and the Future," the discipline of turfgrass pathology has discovered and described numerous diseases and contributed to practical management solutions over many decades. Currently, the discipline seeks to develop more sustainable practices by elucidating the underlying biology, ecology, and epidemiology of turfgrass diseases.

Today's students are using cutting-edge technologies and learning new research methods that can be applied to turfgrass systems. With increasing urbanization, and increasing utilization of turfgrass, it will be important to have professionals trained in turfgrass pathology. It is essential that today's graduate students are provided opportunities to travel to annual meetings and sharpen their scientific skills, as well as take advantage of networking opportunities. ■

