



AMERICAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
**SOUTHERN DIVISION NEWSLETTER**  
*October, 2014*

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**2015 SOUTHERN DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA:**  
**ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**DEADLINES TO REMEMBER**

**November 17, 2014**

- ☞ **Abstracts** – Submit online (DETAILS ON PAGE 2).
- ☞ **Abstract fees** – Pay online or send to Gary Vallad (FORM ON PAGE 6)
- ☞ **Graduate Student Research Award presentations** – Submit abstracts online (DETAILS ON PAGE 2)
- ☞ **Graduate Student/Post-Doc Travel Awards** – Send application to Kevin Ong (PAGES 3 & 5).
- ☞ **Nominations for Outstanding Plant Pathologist and Donald M. Ferrin Memorial Service Award** - Send to Tom Allen (DETAILS ON PAGE 3).

**December 1, 2014**

- ☞ **Nominations for Vice President or an interest to serve as Secretary-Treasurer** - Send to Gary Vallad (PAGE 4).

**January 16, 2015**

- ☞ **Deadline for room reservations at the Westin Peachtree Plaza**
- ☞ **Deadline for receiving advance registration rate** – Register online with a credit card or send a check to Gary Vallad.

**92<sup>ND</sup> SDAPS MEETING**

The 92<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society, Southern Division, will be held February 1 - 2, 2015, in Atlanta, GA at the

Westin Peachtree Plaza in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists that is occurring from January 31<sup>st</sup> to Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

An **Early Professionals meeting and social** for graduate students and post-docs is scheduled for **Saturday night Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>**, beginning at 6pm at the Westin. Additional details will follow in the December newsletter.

**The early registration fee will be \$150 for regular members and Post-Docs and \$50 for student members; after January 16<sup>th</sup> the registration fees will increase to \$200 and \$75, respectively.** The registration fee covers coffee breaks, the meeting room and A/V equipment, and partial costs for the graduate student luncheon and Southern Division banquet. Registration can be paid online in advance (preferable) or at the meeting.

The official meeting hotel is:  
**THE WESTIN PEACHTREE PLAZA**  
210 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30303  
Phone: 1-800-937-8461

To ensure you get the group rate, be sure to tell them that you are with the **Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists**.

Group Room Rates:  
Single and Double Bed Rooms - \$149/night  
Triple or Quad Bed Rooms - \$179 / night  
(if reserved before Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 PM EST, otherwise prevailing rates will apply).

Check in is 3:00 pm - Check out is 12:00 pm.

**Reservations must be made by Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015** to get the reduced group rate. The first night of the stay will be charged as a deposit immediately

upon booking. Cancellations made after 6 pm on Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> will forfeit the deposit. An early check-out fee may apply, if you do not give the hotel prior notice of an earlier departure prior to or at the time of check-in.

Complimentary Services: Complimentary high speed internet service in rooms, complimentary local and 800 calls, and complimentary access to pool and Health Club.

Airport Transportation: There is no shuttle service available from the hotel, which is 8 miles from Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. Options include:

- The Atlanta Airport Shuttle Service - \$16.50, per person one way; hours of operation 6:00am - 11:00pm; Call 404-941-3440.
- MARTA - \$1.75, 20 minute ride to the hotel located at the Peachtree Center station.
- Taxi - \$25, 1 passenger; \$26, 2 passengers; and \$10 for each additional passenger.

Parking: Self-parking is available for SAAS participants at \$25/day, or \$32/day for valet parking.

For more information about the SDAPS meetings, see:

<http://www.apsnet.org/members/divisions/south/meetings/Pages/default.aspx>.

See <http://www.atlanta.net/> for more information about Atlanta and its attractions.

## **\*\* CALL FOR ABSTRACTS \*\***

The SDAPS program will consist of oral and poster presentations. The SDAPS meeting is an excellent opportunity for graduate students to obtain oral presentation experience at a professional meeting.

Please refer to the SD-APS website for complete abstract instructions and submission details.

### **ABSTRACTS ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 17, 2014!**

Additional abstract requirements: At least one author of each paper presented at the meeting must be an APS member. Only abstracts of those papers actually presented at the meeting will be published and only unpublished information may be included.

Fifteen minutes will be allowed for each oral paper, 12 minutes for presentation and 3 minutes for questions. Equipment will be available for digital presentations (*PowerPoint*) via LCD. Bring your presentation in PowerPoint (PC compatible) on a USB memory stick.

Abstracts not conforming to the required style will be returned to the author and must be resubmitted on or before the November 17<sup>th</sup> deadline for acceptance. Only those abstracts accepted and presented at the meeting will be published online by APS. Authors are responsible for grammatical editing. Please have your abstract proofread by a colleague.

Posters will follow standard APS guidelines and must not exceed 46 inches wide by 45 inches high. Visit the SDAPS website for APS poster guidelines.

## **PAYMENT FOR ABSTRACTS**

**Abstract fees are \$45 if paid by the deadline (November 17, 2014), and \$55 if paid at the meeting.** Payments for abstracts should be made online when registering for the meeting or, if after the deadline, **sent directly to the SDAPS secretary/treasurer, NOT to APS. Send payment form (page 6) plus check made payable to "APS" or "APS/SD"** (with the notation "SDAPS abstract payment") to Gary Vallad, Dept. Plant Pathology, Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, 14625 CR 672, Wimauma, FL 33598. **Please use the invoice on page 6 so that payments can be matched with abstracts.**

Do NOT send purchase orders or direct vouchers. RECEIPTS for abstracts will be available at the meeting, but they cannot be mailed in advance.

## **SDAPS GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD**

Eligible graduate students are invited to enter the Graduate Student Research Award Competition. Up to three awards may be presented. Awards for the first, second, and third place speakers are \$300, \$200, and \$100, respectively. In addition, the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner is eligible for additional travel funds to represent the southern division at the APS annual meeting in Pasadena, CA in 2015.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014 WINNERS, JACOB PRICE (TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY), PHILIP VINES (MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY), AND KELLY MORRIS (UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA), WHO PLACED 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>, AND 3<sup>RD</sup>, RESPECTIVELY. HONORABLE MENTIONS WERE ALSO GIVEN TO MARY HELEN FERGUSON (LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY) AND JULIET FULTZ (UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS).**

Eligibility Requirement: Students competing for the award must i) be enrolled in a graduate program in the Southern Division either at the time of, or within six months prior to, the abstract submission deadline (**November 17, 2014**); ii) have paid dues to the Southern Division at the time the paper is presented; iii) be sole or senior author of the paper; and iv) present this paper at the meeting of the SDAPS. The paper must communicate results of research in plant pathology conducted while in pursuit of a degree at a Southern Division college or university.

**Students:** Please submit abstract online <http://meeting.apsnet.org/Login.cfm> and be sure to mark that your abstract is for the graduate student awards session.

## SDAPS GRAD STUDENT / POST DOC TRAVEL AWARD

Graduate Students and Post-doctoral Associates who plan to present a paper at the Southern Division meeting in Birmingham are encouraged to apply for the Southern Division Travel Award. The Executive Committee of SDAPS has approved up to five awards of \$300 each. Graduate students and post-doctoral researchers who are members of the Southern Division of the American Phytopathological Society are eligible to compete for a Travel Award to present their research at the SDAPS meeting. Applicants competing for the Travel Award must i) be enrolled in a graduate program in the Southern Division or a post-doctoral research associate at an institution in the Southern Division at the time of, or within six months prior to, the abstract submission deadline, **ii) be a member in good standing of the Southern Division at the time of the meeting**, iii) submit the application form and a cover letter documenting the need for a Travel

Award (described below), and iv) request that their major advisor or PI supervisor submit a letter of support. Graduate students competing in the graduate student paper competition are eligible for a Travel Award. Applications are due **November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014**.

The application will consist of the application form (pg. 5), a narrative statement of no more than 500 words describing the student's academic interests and career goals, current academic status (including courses taken), and involvement in professional activities. Descriptions of innovative projects and/or research that the student has conducted or participated in should also be included. The applicant should state how participation in the meeting will lead toward achievement of professional goals. An abstract of the presentation must also be submitted as well as a confidential letter of recommendation from the student's graduate advisor must also be submitted. **The application must be submitted as a single PDF file containing the SDAPS application form, the narrative statement described above, and a copy of the abstract to be presented.**

Applications are available on page 5 and should be sent to **Kevin Ong at kevo@tamu.edu**. Recipients will be contacted by the Vice President prior to the meeting. Awards will be presented at the 2015 SDAPS business meeting.

## NOMINATIONS FOR THE OUTSTANDING PLANT PATHOLOGIST AWARD AND THE DONALD M. FERRIN SERVICE AWARD

The Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award is granted to a member of the American Phytopathological Society-Southern Division in recognition of distinguished contributions to plant pathology. The contributions may be in research, teaching, extension, or any other aspect of plant pathology in either an academic or non-academic setting.

The Donald M. Ferrin Memorial Service Award is granted to a member of the Southern Division of

the American Phytopathological Society in recognition of distinguished service to the American Phytopathological Society. Any Southern Division member who has served for the American Phytopathological Society at the national or divisional level and made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the society's mission is eligible for nomination.

Nominations for either award must be accompanied by a statement - no longer than 3 to 4 pages, double-spaced - giving name, position, affiliation, and critique that includes the nature, scope and relevance of the contributions that qualify the nominee for consideration. A biographical sketch of the candidate not exceeding 1,000 words should accompany the nomination. The nominator should prepare and send the nomination statement and the biographical sketch as a single PDF file by e-mail to: **Tom Allen at tallen@drec.msstate.edu by November 17, 2014.**

## NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Vice President is responsible for membership and assisting with program development for the annual meeting and will become President Elect upon completion of the term of office. The Secretary-Treasurer is appointed by the executive committee for a term of 3 years, and is responsible for division finances, recording meeting minutes, and preparing business reports and newsletters. **Please e-mail your nominations for Vice President or your interest to serve as Secretary-Treasurer to Gary Vallad at gvallad@ufl.edu by December 1, 2014.**

## SOUTHERN DIVISION OFFICERS

### President

Tom Allen  
Mississippi State University  
Entomology & Plant Pathology  
Delta Research and Extension Center  
82 Stoneville Road, P.O. Box 197  
Stoneville, MS 38776

Phone: (662) 402-9995  
E-mail: tallen@drec.msstate.edu

### President Elect

Nicole Ward Gauthier  
University of Kentucky  
201C Plant Science Building  
1405 Plant Science  
Lexington, KY 40546-0312  
Phone: (859) 218-0720  
E-mail: nicole.ward@uky.edu

### Vice President

Kevin Ong  
Texas AgriLife Extension Services  
1500 Research Pkwy, Ste 130A  
College Station, TX 77845  
Phone: (979) 845-8032  
E-mail: kevo@tamu.edu

### Past President

Jason E. Woodward  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Plant Pathology & Microbiology  
1102 E FM 1294  
Lubbock, TX 79403-6653  
Phone: (806) 632-0762  
E-mail: jewoodward@ag.tamu.edu

### Divisional Forum Representative

Kenneth W. Seebold  
Valent USA  
608 Havana Court  
Lexington, KY 40511  
Phone: (859) 940-5184  
E-mail: Kenneth.Seebold@valent.com

### Secretary-Treasurer

Gary E. Vallad  
University of Florida  
Plant Pathology Department  
Gulf Coast Research and Education  
Center  
14625 CR 672  
Wimauma, FL 33598  
Phone: (813) 633-4121  
E-mail: gvallad@ufl.edu



Southern Division  
American Phytopathological Society  
***Travel Grant Application***

Graduate students and post-doctoral researchers who are members of the Southern Division of the American Phytopathological Society are eligible to compete for a Travel Grant to present their research at the SDAPS meeting. The application will consist of a narrative statement of no more than 500 words describing the student's academic interests and career goals, current academic status (including courses taken), and involvement in professional activities. Descriptions of innovative projects and/or research that the student has conducted or participated in should also be included. The applicant should state how participation in the meeting will lead toward achievement of professional goals. An abstract of the presentation must also be submitted as well as a confidential letter of recommendation from the student's graduate advisor must also be submitted.

Applicants competing for the Travel Grant must i) be enrolled in a graduate program in the Southern Division or a post-doctoral research associate at an institution in the Southern Division at the time of the abstract submission deadline or within six months prior to the abstract submission deadline, ii) be a member in good standing of the Southern Division at the time of the meeting, iii) **submit the application as a single PDF file containing this SD-APS application form, the narrative statement described above, and a copy of the abstract to be presented**, and iv) request their major advisor or PI supervisor to submit a letter of support. Graduate students competing in the graduate student paper competition are eligible for a Travel Grant.

Name and Campus Address	Date: Phone: Email: Status: (please check appropriate line) <input type="checkbox"/> M. S. Student <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D. Student <input type="checkbox"/> Post-doctoral Associate
Advisor or PI:	Phone:
Estimated cost of travel: \$	

**SUBMIT COMPLETED INFORMATION AS A PDF FILE TO: Kevin Ong by e-mail kevo@tamu.edu by November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014.**



SOUTHERN DIVISION ABSTRACT PAYMENT  
(For direct payment only)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_

For publication of abstract in *Phytopathology*..... \$45.00  
(Fee is \$55.00 if submitted after November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014)

First Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Remit to:

Gary Vallad  
SDAPS Secretary-Treasurer  
UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center  
14625 CR 672  
Wimauma, FL 33598

The SDAPS Newsletter is available on the SDAPS web site at:  
<http://www.apsnet.org/members/divisions/south/meetings/Pages/default.aspx>

**Send a check made payable to "APS" or "APS/SD" to the secretary-treasurer at the same time the abstract is submitted online. Deadline for receipt of payment is November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014. RECEIPTS for abstracts will be provided at the meeting for those requesting them.**

## **SDAPS DUES**

SDAPS dues are \$20 for members, associate members, and post-doctoral researchers (excluding retired plant pathologists who are considered honorary members), and \$5 for student members. Dues may be sent to the SDAPS Secretary/Treasurer or paid with your APS dues.