

SPOREPRINTS

Department of Plant Pathology & Environmental Microbiology

APRIL 2013

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CONGRATULATIONS

Annual Department Awards Ceremony

February 28, 2013 – James Tammen Room

2012-13 Graduate & Undergraduate Student Scholarships Awards



2013 Service Awards



2012-13 Excellent in Teaching Award & Staff Excellence Award



APS Melhus Awards

To Attend the Annual American Phytopathological Society Meetings
in Austin, TX and present their Research
at the 13th I.E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium

Sarah Bardsley and Emily Pfeufer

2013 APS Awardee Announcement

The American Phytopathological Society recently announced the 2013 APS Awards to be recognized at this summer's National APS Meeting in Austin, Texas. Two Penn State Faculty to be recognized this year are ***Dr. Seogchan Kang, a recipient of the Ruth Allen award*** and ***Dr. Fred Gildow who is named an APS Fellow***. The Ruth Allen award honors individuals who have made an outstanding, innovative research contribution that has changed, or has the potential to change, the direction of research in plant pathology. The society grants the Fellow Award to honor a current APS member in recognition of distinguished contributions to plant pathology. Fellow recognition is based on significant contributions in original research, teaching, administration, and outreach.

Additional congratulations...

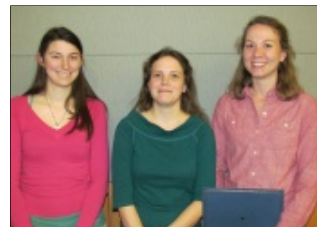
2013 Gamma Sigma Delta / College of Agricultural Sciences Research Expo and The 2013 Graduate Exhibition Award Winners & Participants

2013 Gamma Sigma Delta Winners

Emily Pfeufer – *First Place Award* in Biological Sciences

Amy Baetsen - *First Place Award* in Environmental & Natural Sciences Div.

Hilary Chessman – *Second Place Award* in Environmental & Natural Sciences Div.



2013 Graduate Exhibition Winner

Emily Pfeufer – *Second Place Award* in Health and Life Sciences

Participants...

Sarah Bardsley (Maria Jimenez-Gasco)
Hilary Cheesman (Paul Backman & Beth Gugino)
Alamgir Rahman (Wkar Uddin)
Caroline Black (Maria Jimenez-Gasco & Beth Gugino)
Emily Pfeufer (Beth Gugino)
Yueying Chen (Yinong Yang)
Emmie Warnstrom (Dan Royse & Don Davis)
Amy Baetsen (Pl. Sci. grad. – co-advised by Don Davis)
Noel Allen (undergraduate advised by Paul Backman)

Special Thanks to the Volunteer Judges...

Yinong Yang
Brian Aynardi
Laura Ramos-Sepulveda
Grace O'Keefe
Judy Sinn
Maria Jimenez-Gasco
Fred Gildow

Graduate International Research Competitive Grant Award

Hilary Cheesman's Graduate International Research Competitive Grant titled "Plant Associated Microbes that Support Sustainability and Productivity for Andean Farmers in Bolivia" was funded. The funding was used to support travel to Bolivia in April to collect isolates of *Bacillus* spp. to be evaluated in the U.S. for their ability to promote the health and suppress diseases of broad bean, as well as to establish biological seed treatment trials in Bolivia.

Congratulations to:

- **Kristi Fenstermacher** who passed her Oral Candidacy Exam on Feb 23rd.
- **Emily Pfeufer** who passed her Comprehensive Exam on April 5th.
- **Laura Ramos-Sepulveda** who passed her Comprehensive Exam on April 9th.

State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania (SHAP)

Awardees and Proposal Titles

Awardees and Proposal Title:

Sarah Bardsley and Maria Jimenez-Gasco - *Development of Antibiotic Resistance in Bacterial Spot of Peach and Nectarine.*

Kari Peter, Noemi Halbrendt, Maria Jimenez-Gasco, and Wayne Jurick – *Development and Application of a Rapid Dye-based Method to Determine Pesticide Resistance in Pre- and Postharvest Tree Fruit Pathogens.*

Noemi Halbrendt, Kari Peter, Jim Schupp – *Assessment of Cross-Resistance to Site-Specific Fungicides in Populations of *Venturia inaequalis* (Scab fungus) and *Monilinia fructicola* (Brown rot fungus) in Pennsylvania Orchards.*

Noemi Halbrendt and Kari Peter – *Impact of Summer Disease Management on Storage Rot of Apple.*

These grant funds are generated annually by a self-induced tax on fruit production paid by members of the SHAP organization of Pennsylvania tree fruit growers. These funds awarded annually represent a substantial contribution to our Penn State tree fruit research and extension efforts.

Sara May named Interim Director of the new Plant Health Resource Center



The mission of the Center is to improve pest protection of Pennsylvania's plant resources through synergism and enhanced collaboration among the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Penn State, Department of Conservation of Natural Resources and other state, federal and private partners. As part of this mission the Clinic was awarded funds to cover two graduate student assistantships for the summer months. Sara is currently seeking out students who may be interested in this opportunity. This commitment would require approximately 20 hours/week of work in the Plant Disease Clinic. The student's summer assistantship would be covered. There is also the possibility that the work in the Clinic could count for course credits. Please contact Sara May if you are interested in applying.

Welcome Dr. Kari Peter...



Kari joined the PPEM department in January, 2013 and will be at the FREC facility in Biglerville. Dr. Peter earned her bachelor's degree in entomology and plant pathology at the Univ. of Delaware and her master's degree and doctorate in plant pathology from Cornell University. From 2008 to 2010, she was a postdoctoral fellow in plant pathology here at Penn State where she researched transmission of plant viruses by aphids and the mechanisms for vector specificity. Dr. Peter comes to Penn State after two years in the Food Quality Laboratory at the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, MD. As a research associate, she studied post-harvest fungal diseases of apples and mechanisms associated with their biocontrol. "My Master Gardener experience and the interaction I've had with growers in my previous positions will allow me to develop a holistic research and extension program that will help growers address all major fruit pathogens," per Dr. Peter.



Thanks to Ilse for coordinating the AG DAY 2013 exhibit for those who volunteer their time!

PPEM Students Connecting with Pennsylvania Stakeholders

This past few months provided our student many opportunities to present and interact with grower stakeholders in PA and the mid-Atlantic region. During the 2013 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention held in Hershey, PA, Emily Pfeufer and Sarah Bardsley presented the results of their research on onion and peach, respectively while Ilse Huerta Arredondo presented a talk on basic disease management during the Spanish session. All three students as well as Laura Ramos-Sepulveda also presented at winter growers meetings and/or participated in grower roundtable discussions held in Biglerville and Leola, PA.



Upcoming Events...

- April 15th – Seminar Speaker – Jim Tiedje, Michigan State University
- April 19th – Seminar Speaker - Freddy Magdama, PPEM PhD Student
- April 22nd – Seminar Speaker – Gwyn Beattie, Iowa State Univ.
- April 25th – Faculty Meeting – 208A – 1:30pm
- April 26th – Classes End
- April 29th – Staff Meeting – 208A – 9am
- April 29th – May 2 – Final Exams
- May 3-5 – Commencement

Name this Disease and Casual Agent

If you are interested in competing, send both the common name of this disease and its causal agent to Sandy in an e-mail with “SporePrints Contest” on the subject line. Only contestants who submit entries with both answers correct will be considered winners. Winners will be determined and their names posted on the Mailroom bulletin board one week after SporePrints is distributed. At the Dept. Award Ceremony (winter 2013), the individual with the most wins, will receive recognition and a travel award. Host...Pumpkin. Photo courtesy of Tom Maloney, PSU Extension.

