



2016 Newsletter

Important Dates

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Departmental Membership Nominations Due: | February 1, 2016 |
| Faculty Award Nominations Due: | February 24, 2016 |
| Abstracts for Research Expo Due: | February 24, 2016 |
| GSD Research Exhibition: | March 29, 2016 |
| Celebration of Excellence Ceremony: | March 31, 2016 |

Message from the Chapter President: Catherine Cutter

Happy New Year to members of the Penn State Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta! In this edition of the GSD newsletter, you will find information on recent accomplishments and upcoming activities for 2016. We have also provided information and made some minor changes to dues collection and abstract submissions for the research expo. Also included in the newsletter is information about nominations for GSD membership, nominations for faculty awards, and GSD membership dues.

On behalf of the GSD leadership team, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize **Dr. Mark Brennan**, past President of the PSU Chapter of GSD and organizer of the 2015 GSD Research Expo. Mark has served our organization for a number of years and we are most appreciative of his commitment and dedication. We wish him well in his future endeavors!

In 2015, the PSU Chapter of GSD garnered a **Gold Award** from GSD International, as well as **Most Improved Chapter**. You can check out the awards in the GSD display case, located in the lobby of the ASI Building. GSD International also will recognize these accomplishments at the upcoming GSD Celebration of Excellence in March.

On March 24, 2015, the chapter sponsored the **21st Annual GSD Research Expo**. Seventy-four undergraduate and graduate students participated. We also hosted the **GSD Celebration of Excellence** on March 26, 2015 to recognize the talents and scholarship of our undergraduate students, graduate students, staff, and faculty of our College of Agricultural Sciences. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Roush, Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. A listing of all Expo award winners, outstanding undergraduate student, and faculty awards, as well as new members is included in this newsletter. Congratulations to all of the award winners and new members for a job well done!

Let's make the 22nd Annual Research Expo another great success! This year's **Research Expo will be held on Tuesday, March 29th at 5 pm on the Life Sciences Bridge**. Advisors, consider having your undergraduate and graduate students submit an abstract by February 24, 2016. GSD members, consider volunteering to judge at the Expo. In 2015, we had ~28 judges. To lighten the load, it would be great to have up to 36 judges. GSD Department Representatives will be in contact in March. The

success of the Research Expo depends on participants like you! We also appreciate the generous support received from the College through the Gerald T. Gentry Endowment for Graduate Education (\$3,000), Evans Family Endowment (\$750), and Resident Education office of the College (\$750) for the exhibition award funds and for rental of the poster boards for this event. This year, abstract submissions will be taken online through C-vent. A flyer with information about the Expo is provided in this newsletter and will be shared with departmental representatives for posting in departments.

The **GSD Celebration of Excellence Ceremony** will be held on **March 31, 2016 in 112 Forest Resources Building** (reception in the Atrium starting at 4pm, ceremony at 4:30 pm). This ceremony will recognize winners from the GSD Research Expo, GSD student and faculty award winners, outstanding undergraduate students, as well as the College of Agricultural Sciences awards (Black, Buck, Evans, and Hand)..

Many of our chapter activities are funded through the **\$20 membership fee** and donations from members. While it is an increase over previous years, this fee also covers the cost of the reception for the awards ceremony and student awards. Please consider this relatively small donation to help keep the chapter functioning. As always, we also welcome additional donations to support our activities. To pay your membership dues, we are no longer using PayPal. This year we are switching to C-vent to collect dues and donations online. Dues and donations also will be accepted via campus mail. See the last pages of the newsletter for additional information on mailing and/or paying your dues via C-vent.

Finally, thank you for your continued support and commitment to the organization and enjoy the rest of the newsletter!

New Members in 2015

This year, 23 undergraduates, 16 graduate students, 9 faculty, and 7 staff members were initiated into the Penn State Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta at the 2015 Celebration of Excellence Ceremony.

GAMMA SIGMA DELTA 2015 Initiates

Undergraduates

Samantha Bohn
Louise Byler
Joshua Clark
Lindsay Courtney
Samantha Frable
Shawn Francis
Leah Giralico
Alyssa Gurklis
Michelle Hartzell
Amanda Hirkey
Rebecca Hovingh
Natalie Keller
Richard Ketterman
Carli Lucas

Graduates

Byron Zhaoyong Ba
Michel Baldin
Anita Behari
Curtis Covelli
Kristi Fenstermacher
Nelson Gaydos
Fabio Giallongo
Keith Gibson
Daniel Hofstetter
Odette Mina
Minerva Rivera
Dana Roberts
Maliheh Safari
Abigail Sido

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Elizabeth Palmer | Sandra Wheeler |
| Colleen Pease | Zhao Zhang |
| Denille Pingrey | <u>Faculty</u> |
| Laura Reese | Paul Bartell |
| Coby Salmon | Alyssa Collins |
| Kathryn Schmidt | Christina Grozinger |
| Stephen Smith | Daniel Kniffen |
| Ashley Vavrek | Wansheng Liu |
| Rebecca Warriner | Robert Mikesell |
| <u>Academic Staff</u> | Kari Peter |
| Rebecca Connelly | Xinshun Qu |
| Neelendra Joshi | Cristina Rosa |
| Andrea Kocher | |
| Sara May | |
| Robert Meinen | |
| Laura Ramos-Sepulveda | |
| Justin Welk | |

Awards for 2015

Outstanding Undergraduate Awards

Sophomore: **Natalie Keller**, Food Science
Advisor: Dr. Gregory Ziegler

Junior: **John A. Perkins**, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences
Advisor: Dr. Lester Griel

Senior: **Kira Hydock**, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences and
African Studies with a minor in International Agriculture
Advisor: Dr. Lester Griel

Faculty Awards

Teaching: **Dr. Kelli Hoover**, Professor, Entomology

Research: **Dr. Paul Smith**, Professor, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Extension: **Dr. Daniel Ciolkosz**, Research and Extension Associate, Agricultural and
Biological Engineering

Gamma Sigma Delta Student Research Exhibition/Expo March 24, 2015 – The Penn State Chapter and the College of Agricultural Sciences sponsored the first Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Student Research Exhibition/Expo in March 1995. On March 24, 2015 74 research posters (46 graduate student and 28 undergraduate) were presented by students from all academic units in the College at the 21st Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Research Expo. Approximately \$4150 was distributed to students who placed in the Expo. Mark Brennan, Immediate Past President, organized this year's event that was held in the Life Sciences Bridge and Auditorium. Many thanks to Mark, the student presenters, and the judges for making the 2015 Expo a rewarding and successful event!

2015 Gamma Sigma Delta Research Expo Award Winners

Plant Related –Undergraduate students

-1st place

Title: Extraction of effector(s) from *Colletotrichum sublineolum*
Author: **Laura Reese**
Unit: Plant Science, College of Ag and Biochemistry/Molecular Biology, Eberly College of Science
Advisor: Drs. Surinder Chopra and Iffa Gaffor

-2nd place

Title: Exploring the potential interaction of *Morchella esculenta* with *Ulmus americana*
Author: **Hunter Swisher**
Unit: Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology
Advisor: Dr. Gretchen Kuldau

-Pre-Collegiate Award

Title: 3-Deoxyanthocyanideins in sorghum bicolor roots upon *Colletotrichum sublineolum* infection
Author: **Phillip R. Clauer**
Unit: Plant Science
Advisor: Dr. Surinder Chopra

Human and Animal Related-Undergraduate students

-1st place

Title: A novel delivery system for probiotics
Author: **Rebecca Hovingh**
Unit: College of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Food Science
Advisor: Dr. Catherine Cutter

-2nd place

Title: Effects of organic or inorganic trace minerals on health and performance in Holstein dairy calves
Author: **Linda Truong**
Unit: Animal Science
Advisor: Dr. Jud Heinrichs

-3rd place

Title: Stress levels of arctic ground squirrels (*Urocitellus parryii*) during a reintroduction into extirpated sites in Southwest Yukon
Author: **Shelby A. Harkless**
Unit: Ecosystem Science and Management
Advisor: Dr. Michael J. Sheriff

-4th place

Title: Impact of calves wearing coats on calf growth and feed intake
Author: **Allison Walker**
Unit: Animal Sciences
Advisor: Dr. Jud Heinrichs

Ag and International-Graduate students

-1st place

Title: On the stage of life: Using theatre of the oppressed to enhance critical awareness and community agency through a youth leadership program
Author: **Erika Pioltine Anseloni**
Unit: Agricultural Economics, Sociology and Education
Advisor: Dr. Mark Brennan

Social Sciences-Graduate students

-1st place

Title: Future of irrigation in India: Crop demand, water supply and (un)sustainability
Author: **Esha Zaveri**
Unit: Agricultural Economics, Sociology and Education
Advisor: Dr. Karen Fisher-Vanden

Biological Sciences-Graduate students

-1st place

Title: Larval diet of malaria mosquitoes significantly delays parasite development and drastically reduces transmission potential of adult mosquito populations
Author: **Lillian Moller-Jacobs**
Unit: Entomology
Advisor: Dr. Matthew B. Thomas

-2nd place

Title: Cranberry extract ameliorates obesity-related liver inflammation via the toll-like receptor 4 pathway
Author: **Shannon Glisan**
Unit: Food Science
Advisor: Dr. Joshua Lambert

-3rd place

Title: Corn, soybean, and wheat yields in an organic rotational no-till system during the 3-year transition
Author: **Clair Keene**
Unit: Plant Science
Advisor: Dr. William Curran

-4th place

Title: Survival of spoilage microorganisms associated with pickled sausage using a cold fill process
Author: **Nelson J. Gaydos**

Unit: Animal Science
Advisor: Dr. Jonathan Campbell

Environment and Natural Resources-Graduate students

-1st place

Title: Conserving nutrients from fall applied manure
Author: **Rachel Milliron**
Unit: Plant Sciences
Advisor: Drs. Heather Karsten and Doug Beegle

-2nd place

Title: Global warming and bioenergy: It's about hot spots and hot moments
Author: **Debasish Saha**
Unit: Ecosystem Science and Management
Advisor: Dr. Armen Kemanian

Physical and Engineering-Graduate students

-1st place

Title: Effect of exogenous acetaldehyde during fermentation on red wine tannins and astringency
Author: **Marlena K. Sheridan**
Unit: Food Science
Advisor: Dr. Ryan J. Elias

Planned Events and Deadlines: Mark Your Calendars!

Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Research Expo – The 2016 Research Expo will be held Tuesday, **March 29, 2016** at the Life Sciences Bridge, beginning at 5 pm. Abstract deadline is February 24, 2016. Please check the website for more information: <http://www.cvent.com/d/ffq8nc>
Additional information about the Expo is provided via a poster at the end of the newsletter.

GSD Celebration of Excellence Ceremony and Awards Reception March 31, 2016 – The GSD reception, award, and initiation ceremony will be held in the Atrium of the Forest Resources Building and Room 112 of the Forest Resources Building on Thursday, March 31, 2016 (reception at 4 pm, ceremony at 4:30pm). Award winners from the College, Research Expo, new initiates –undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, staff, and alumni – and our 2016 outstanding Extension, Research, and Teaching awards will be presented during this ceremony. The outstanding sophomore, junior, and senior students in the College of Agricultural Sciences also will be recognized at this time. The Celebration of Excellence Ceremony is an important occasion for student, staff, and faculty members, so we encourage attendance by our members and their families for this event.

Membership Nominations – All members are encouraged to nominate outstanding faculty, staff, Extension educators, alumni, and graduate students to become members. Nominations should be directed to GSD departmental representatives and/or unit leaders. The criteria for nominations are provided below.

Graduate students: Graduate students must have: (1) completed at least 2/5 of the required program for the Master's or Ph.D. degree; (2) shown **superior** ability to conduct research and/or advanced study in our College; (3) shown **promise** of making further contributions; and (4) obtained at least a 3.5 grade-point average in graduate work.

Faculty: Faculty with at least three years of work in agriculture and related sciences at the initiating university, and who have outstanding performance and achievement in the areas of teaching, research, and/or extension are eligible for election to Gamma Sigma Delta.

Alumni: Alumni are eligible for election five or more years after graduation if they have provided outstanding service to agriculture and have demonstrated their worthiness of the honor.

Honorary: Individuals who are involved in agricultural or related sciences as leaders at the university, community, state, regional, or national level but who are not eligible in the above categories may be invited to membership. Such membership is a prestigious award and is limited to one per chapter per year.

The nomination forms are available from your GSD representative, the Gamma Sigma Delta website at: <http://agsci.psu.edu/gsd/forms> or you may also contact John Ewing, Secretary-Treasurer, (jce122@psu.edu; 814-863-7463). **Nominations for all new members are due by February 24, 2016.**

Nominations for Faculty Awards – Our Extension, Research, and Teaching Awards recognize excellent faculty for their contributions. Please nominate outstanding faculty and help prepare the documentation by **February 24, 2016**. For copies of the forms, visit the GSD website: <http://agsci.psu.edu/gsd/forms> or contact John Ewing, Secretary-Treasurer, (jce122@psu.edu; 814-863-7463).

Contributions Needed– Our Gamma Sigma Delta chapter depends on contributions from the members to fund its programs and activities. Each year, we present cash awards to the outstanding sophomore, junior, and senior in the College, provide financial support for awards and expenses at the GSD/College of Agricultural Sciences Research Exhibition, and underwrite expenses at our Celebration of Excellence Ceremony. Our ability to sponsor awards and have chapter activities depends completely on your financial contributions. Several years ago, we initiated membership dues for active members. The response was outstanding this year: 36 members paid active membership dues and several members made additional contributions. All these activities listed above would not be possible without the financial help of GSD members and the college. The Gold Chapter Awards that we received in the past years were clear indication of the success of our chapter.

Thank You

A special thank you to our Penn State Chapter active members and donors in 2015:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Brian Aynardi | Kevin Harvatine |
| Connie Baggett | Kelli Hoover |
| Victoria Bolden | Tracy Hoover |
| Mark Brennan | Kira Hydock |
| Kathleen Brown | Gretchen Kuldau |
| Marilyn Corbin | Grace O'Keefe |
| Catherine Cutter | Kelly Lowery |
| Ali Demirci | Ann Macrina |
| Patrick Drohan | Sharon McDonald |
| Andrew Elder | Deanna Miller |
| Robert Elkin | Michelle Putman |
| John Ewing | Robert Shannon |
| Jordan Fairman | Ann Swinker |
| Mike Fidanza | Joan Thomson |
| Daniel Foster | Gary Thompson |
| Serena Groff | Robert VanSaun |
| Beth Gugino | Katie Wantz |
| Kaitlin Gutherman | Robert Weaver |

Chapter Roster – If you know of chapter members who passed away recently or have moved away from the University, please contact John Ewing, Secretary-Treasurer, (jce122@psu.edu) so that we can continue to update our roster. Also, please contact John if you know of faculty or other individuals at Penn State who were inducted into GSD at another university, whether as a student, staff, or as a faculty member, so we can invite them to participate in our Penn State chapter activities.

Department Representatives – The following individuals are serving as GSD department/unit representatives during the 2015-2016 academic year. Contact them to get more information about Chapter activities.

| <u>Department/Unit</u> | <u>GSD Rep</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Phone</u> | <u>E-mail</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Ag & Bio Eng. | Rob Shannon | 233 Ag Engr | 5-7153 | rshannon@psu.edu |
| Ag. Ec. Soc. & Ed | John Ewing | 215 Ferguson Building | 3-7463, | jce122@psu.edu |
| Plant Science | Marvin Risius | 414 Ag Admin | 3-4428 | mlr6@psu.edu |
| | Dan Stearns | 306 Tyson | 3-6167 | dstearns@psu.edu |
| College Admin. | Patreese Ingram | 230 Ag Admin | 3-7439 | pdi1@psu.edu |
| Animal Science | Anne Macrina | 313 Henning | 3-4202 | alm106@psu.edu |
| Entomology | Nancy Ostiguy | 542 ASI | 3-2872 | nxo3@psu.edu |
| Food Science | Stephanie Doores | 432 Food Sci. | 3-2956 | sxd11@psu.edu |

| <u>Department/Unit</u> | <u>GSD Rep</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Phone</u> | <u>E-mail</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| Ecosys. Sci & Mgmt | Patrick Drohan | 452 ASI | 3-4246 | pjd7@psu.edu |
| Plant Path & Env Micro | Gretchen Kuldau | 308 Buckhout | 3-7232 | kuldau@psu.edu |
| Vet & Biomed Sci | Lester Griel | 115 Henning | 5-7696 | lcg1@psu.edu |

2016 Officers – With your active participation, we’ll have another great year! Please contact the officers if you have questions about our activities or any other aspects of Gamma Sigma Delta.

President: Cathy Cutter, 433 Erickson Food Science Building, 814-865-8862, cnc3@psu.edu

Vice President: Beth Gugino, 204 Buckhout Lab, 814-865-7328, bkgugino@psu.edu

Secretary-Treasurer: John Ewing, 215 Ferguson Building, 863-7463, jce122@psu.edu

Historian: Luke LaBorde, 442 Erickson Food Science Building, 814-863-2298, lf15@psu.edu

Past-President: John Tooker, 506 Ag Sci & Ind Building, 814-865-7082, tooker@psu.edu

For more information about the Penn State Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, including links to forms for Research Expo participation, membership nominations, and Award nominations, please visit our website: <http://gsd.cas.psu.edu/>

PAYING YOUR GSD ANNUAL DUES

This year, payment of annual GSD dues (\$20) can be done ELECTRONICALLY using C-vent.

Go to:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/nfq8hv>

You also can make additional donations to GSD on the site.

OR

Fill out the form below, include a check, and mail both to the Secretary-Treasurer via campus mail or postal service.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

_____ I am enclosing \$20, as I wish to remain an active member for 2016.

_____ Payment in ADVANCE. I am enclosing \$ _____ to extend my active membership _____ years at \$20 per year.

_____ I would like to donate \$ _____ to be used for scholarships and various activities.

Please note that your membership fee will cover the initiation/awards reception fee. The names of active members will be included on the GSD website and also recognized at the initiation/awards ceremony.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Please return the check and completed form to:

**Dr. John Ewing
215 Ferguson Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802**

22nd Annual Ag Research Expo

Tuesday, March 29, 2016
Life Sciences Gateway Bridge

Sponsored by:
Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society for Agricultural Sciences
The College of Agricultural Sciences

~\$4000 to be awarded in these categories:
Ag Education and International Agriculture (Graduate)
Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences (Graduate)
Physical and Engineering Sciences (Graduate)
Biological Sciences (Graduate)
Social Sciences (Graduate)
Undergraduate Research (sub-categories to be determined)



All Penn State undergraduate and graduate students advised in research by a faculty member in the College of Agricultural Sciences are eligible to participate.



Entry forms and poster guidelines are available at

<http://www.cvent.com/d/ffq8nc>

Abstracts must be submitted by **Wed., 24 Feb 2016.**

For information, contact John Tooker (tookер@psu.edu).