2023 SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS DONOR CELEBRATION





2023 Scholarships, Awards and Fellowships

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, a total of \$3.6 million was awarded to 903 students in the College of Agricultural Sciences for the 2023–2024 academic year as of Aug. 11, 2023.

Welcome

Robert Shannon

Environmental Resource Management, Class of 1979 Robert and Tammy Shannon Environmental Resource Management Scholarship

Remarks

László J. Kulcsár Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences

Student Thank Yous

Brandon Bixler Praharsh Patel
Eddie McDaniel Jacqueline Ford
Megan Guy Katherine Blocklove
Sydney McMurray Abby Stoltzfus
Kareena Pandya Jo Ono-Raphel
Cheyenne Bastian-Brown Madison Jurcik

Abigail Wilson

Undergraduate Student Keynote Speaker

Megan Guy Plant Science

Graduate Student Keynote Speaker

Katherine Blocklove Agricultural and Environmental Plant Science

Milestones Speaker

Kareena Pandya Pharmacology and Toxicology

Closing Remarks

Robert Shannon

Environmental Resource Management, Class of 1979

Robert and Tammy Shannon Environmental

Resource Management Scholarship

Stay Tuned for an Announcement of the Date for the 2024 Scholarships and Awards Celebration.

Information and invitations come via email. Please keep your contact information up to date with the

Development Office to ensure you receive timely notification.

New Scholarships & Awards for 2023

Burl H. Burleigh Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences
Fred and Kathy Fries Scholarship in Horticulture in the College of
Agricultural Sciences

James M. Bowser Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences
Dr. Joseph A. Maser Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment

Dr. Carolyn Wallace Thomas Food Science Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Carol and John Graham First-Year Scholarship Endowment

The Nicely Ridge Foundation Scholarship in the College of Agricultural
Sciences

Aarush Reddy Scholarship in the Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences

Department

Samira Reddy and Ashwin Reddy Scholarship in the Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Department

Dr. Marion P. Cullen International Travel Endowment in Animal Science

Kelsey Benn Memorial Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

FMC Fellowship in Applied Entomology
Lactalis Scholarship Program in Food Science
Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council Excellence Fund
Richard Craig Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences
Ralph Mumma Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences
Paul F. Heffner Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences
Ray A. Kline, PAS, Graduate Award for Dairy Nutrition Research
Activities in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Five Years

Dale T. Landis and Barbara Forrester Landis Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

 $\ensuremath{\mathrm{J.}}$ & $\ensuremath{\mathrm{J.}}$ Darlington Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Gempesaw/Albay Scholarship for the College of Agricultural Sciences

Terry and Constance Updegraff Eshenour Endowed Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Daniel R. and Rosemary E. Hagen Scholarship in Animal Science in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Diane Malcolm and Michael E. Katzaman Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Richard C. Hann and Elise F. Hann Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Krear Family Award for Wildlife and Fisheries

Indigo Agriculture Graduate Fellowship

Harold "Doc" Harpster Award

Dr. Fern "Bunny" Willits Graduate Award Endowment in Rural Sociology

Professor Arun Kilara Memorial Graduate Student Award in Food Science

Selma L. Terhorst Memorial Scholarship

Max St. Clair Amoss, Jr. Scholarship

Eric, Albert, and Kathleen Wachsmuth Open Doors Scholarship

Anna M. Griswold Open Doors Scholarship

Tim and Gwen White Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Pruss Family Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Richard and Ruth Cybulski Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Wendell and Carol Hunt Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Scanlon Family Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Jeffrey A. Conrad Open Doors Scholarship

John and Carol Graham Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Hagen Family Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Loughner Family Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Erskine and Wilhelmina Cash and Family Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Dr. John S. and Gloria J. Shenk Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Mountain Family Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Donley and Nellis Families Open Doors Scholarship

John and Marlene Milsom and Family Open Doors Scholarship

Donald L. and Marjorie Resta Young Open Doors Scholarship

Kane Family Open Doors Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Andrew S. McNitt Turfgrass Graduate Fellowship for Improvement of Sports Turf Surfaces

Paul R. Latshaw Turfgrass Graduate Fellowship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Matthew G. Shaffer Turfgrass Graduate Fellowship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Tioga Valley Saddle Club Scholarship

Darwin G. Braund Ph.D. Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

J. Richard and Deborah S. Roenigk Family Scholarship in Agricultural and Extension Education

Penn State Extension Graduate Scholarship in Honor of Dr. John S. Shenk and Dr. J. D. Harrington

Robert and Tammy Shannon Environmental Resource Management Scholarship*

Ten Years

Donald and Lelia Ace Trustee Scholarship

Azzara Family Trustee Scholarship

Firth Family Trustee Scholarship

Harbaugh Family Trustee Scholarship

Hoover Family Trustee Scholarship

James L. and Dolores J. Pierson Trustee Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

PA Pork Producers Council Founders Trustee Scholarship Stanley and Mary Pruss Trustee Scholarship

M. Forest Randolph and William F. Randolph Trustee Scholarship

C. Channa and Usharani C. Reddy Trustee Scholarship

Jay V. and Joyce H. Rush Family Trustee Scholarship

H. Mark Saunders and Lynn M. Walker Trustee Scholarship

M. E. John Applied Research Endowment Award in Agricultural Economics, Sociololgy, and Education

Carl and Veronica Stravinski Scholarship in Forest Science

Fifteen Years

Penn State Alumni Association Trustee Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Eckel Family Trustee Scholarship

George R. and Ann E. Kemp Trustee Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Charles H. Strauss Trustee Scholarship

Lowell T. and Lois B. Underhill Trustee Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Penn State Block and Bridle Club Fund

William B. and Dorothy McCollom Bradly Scholarship in Horticulture

Joseph Cordivano, Sr. Memorial Award

Janet vL. and Thomas C. Doyle Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

Dr. David C. Kradel Memorial Award

Twenty Years

Earl K. and Kay L. Harbaugh Trustee Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences

George W. Sherlock Trustee Scholarship in Agricultural Sciences

Royal P. Fisher, Sr. and Virginia Breneman Fisher Scholarship in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences

Karl A. Snyder Memorial Support Fund for the ASAE Student Branch of the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Program

Jose R. de la Torre, Sr. Endowment in International Agriculture

Twenty-Five Years

Alec and Lexi Beliasov Scholarship in Agricultural Business Management

Donald E. Evans Memorial Delta Theta Sigma Scholarship in Agricultural Sciences

Leslie N. Firth Scholarship in Agriculture

Jerry D. and Alice A. Frantz Agricultural Excellence Endowment Scholarship

George W. Hamilton, Sr. Memorial Scholarship in Turfgrass Science

George W. Hamilton, Jr. Graduate Fellowship in Turfgrass Research

Lawrence D. and Delores A. Muller Scholarship in Dairy Science

Pass-It-On Fund in Agricultural Sciences

Poorbaugh Family Award in Agricultural Sciences

Kelly Shane Quinn Scholarship in Agricultural Sciences

Rumbaugh Family Award

Rumbaugh Agricultural Leadership Award

Ray and Kathryn Treichler Memorial Scholarship in Agricultural Sciences

Harold V. and Velma B. Walton Doctoral Student Endowment in Agriculture & Biological Engineering

George V. Woodrow Scholarship

Thirty Years

Ilene Glenn Scholarship in Environmental Resources

Sara L. Ristey Memorial Scholarship

Clyde S. Robison Memorial Scholarship

Frank and Leonore H. Spearey Scholarship in Forest Resources

Thirty Years (cntd.)

Merrill P. and Adeline B. Tait Memorial Scholarship Edwin M. Wagner Memorial Scholarship

Thirty-Five Years

Dr. David A. Morrow III Alpha Zeta Fraternity Scholarship

Kenneth and Elizabeth Beachley Scholarship

Bicksler Scholarship

John and Mary M. Byerly Scholarship in Agriculture Oliver L. Christman Scholarship

Richard and Barbara Grubb Agricultural Excellence Award Catharine S. Imbt Scholarship in the College of Agricultural Sciences Fred and Florence Jacobson Food Science Graduate Scholarship

Albert E. Madigan Award

Lester P. Nichols Memorial Award

Penn State Horticulture Club Scholarship

Raymond E. and Frances B. Sperry Scholarship

Gilbert S. Watts Memorial Award

Forty Years

Buckwheat Scholarship

Burton S. Horne Memorial Scholarship

Willis L. McClellan Memorial Scholarship

Katherine Mabis McKenna Fellowship

Forty-Five Years

James Clinton Burns Scholarship Fund

Michael J. Daly Memorial Award Fund

Howard W. Dunne Memorial Award

David R. McClay Agricultural Education Award Fund

William D. and Clara Calhoun Phillips Scholarship Fund

William and Edward Powers Poultry Science Grant Fund

Radley Run Garden Club Scholarship Fund

Orpha Kelly Rapp and Jesse Rossiter Rapp '15 Memorial Scholarship Fund

Morrell Smith Scholarship Fund

Fifty Years

Dr. John E. Baylor Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council Scholarship

Herman R. Purdy Award Fund

Darrell E. Walker Memorial Scholarship

Fifty-Five Years

College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Scholarship Fund

Ferguson-Cope Forestry Award

Kurvin W. and Eva S. Lauer College of Agricultural Sciences Student Grants Fund

Sixty-Five Years

Allen L. and Richard H. Baker Memorial 4-H Scholarship

Seventy Years

Eastern Meat Packers Association Scholarship Pennsylvania Seedsmen's Association Award

Seventy-Five Years

Harry W. Skinner Scholarship

Ninety-Five Years

Two-Year Agricultural Class Memorial Fund

One Hundred Years

Arthur C. Bigelow Memorial Scholarship

Boys Working Reserve of Allegheny County Charles Lathrop Pack Forestry Prize

College of Agricultural Sciences Scholarships and Awards Committee

Ellen A. Rom, M.S.

Assistant Teaching Professor, Coordinator of Undergraduate Programs and Alumni Relations

Robert Shannon, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Coordinator of Environmental Resource Management Program, Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education

Dan Kniffen, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Animal Science, Undergraduate Adviser–Beef Cattle, Block and Bridle Club Adviser, Collegiate Cattlewomen Adviser

Biographies (in order of appearance)



Robert Shannon

Environmental Resource Management, Class of 1979

Robert Shannon is the program coordinator for the undergraduate Environmental Resource Management major and an associate professor in Agricultural and Biological Engineering. The interdepartmental ERM program recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and is affiliated with the college's Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Science. Shannon also serves as assistant dean for undergraduate education in the college and is an alumnus of the college and ERM program. He and his wife, Tammy Shannon,

have endowed a scholarship for ERM students who participated in the international Envirothon competition as high school students. Both Shannons have led many embedded study abroad courses for ERM and other Ag Sciences students, exploring countries and continents as varied as Chile, New Zealand, Costa Rica and Antarctica. After more than 27 years at Penn State spent teaching and advising ERM students who are passionate about the environmental sciences, Robert Shannon's greatest satisfaction continues to be working with students, faculty and staff who want to make the world a better place.

Away from Penn State, the Shannons like to hike, run, bike, canoe and explore the outdoors. Rob is a through-hiker of the 2,200-mile Appalachian Trail, and the couple has started a second round, currently completing over 1,200 miles of the trail. Their adventures have provided many stories for their ERM classes.



László J. Kulcsár Interim Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences

László J. Kulcsár is a professor of rural sociology and demography at Penn State, where he currently serves as the interim dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences, following his appointments as the head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education and the interim senior associate dean of the college. His field of expertise is social demography, with an emphasis on migration, urbanization, aging and regional development. His research on population dynamics and community development in rural areas focuses on aging, depopulation and the use of natural resources.

Kulcsár has published numerous papers, contributed chapters to many books, given more than 100 talks, taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses and served as the editor of *Rural Sociology* between 2017 and 2020. Before joining Penn State in 2017, he was a faculty member and department head at Kansas State University in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work.

Prior to embarking on his academic career, he consulted for the European Union on various rural development projects in Eastern Europe and worked in the public opinion polling industry in Hungary. He has an M.A. in public administration studies from the College of Public Administration and an M.A. in sociology from Eötvös Loránd University (both institutions are located in Budapest), and he earned a Ph.D. in development sociology from Cornell University.



Megan Guy *Plant Science*

Megan Guy, of Dalton, New York, is a senior majoring in Plant Science, with a focus in crop production. Growing up on a farm in western New York, Guy found her passion in agriculture, weed science and politics. During her time at Penn State, Guy has taken every opportunity to develop these passions by working for the Weeds Science Lab and conducting research on the Agronomy Farm. She takes classes in agronomy, agroecology and leadership development while also being the vice president of the Collegiate Farm Bureau and a member of the Agronomy Club and Alpha Zeta. She also speaks on the University radio station. Outside of Penn State, Guy has worked for

Western New York Crop Management as a scout and interned at Cornell University as part of the Dairy Advancement Program. After graduating this May, Guy plans on becoming a certified crop adviser to consult for farmers, and she hopes to eventually become a political advocate for the agricultural industry.



Katherine Blocklove

Agricultural and Environmental Plant Science

Katherine Blocklove, of Lansdale, Pennsylvania, is a Ph.D. candidate in Agricultural and Environmental Plant Science. After completing her undergraduate degree with majors in Neuroscience, Biology and Psychology, she was inspired to switch fields after returning to her hometown woods and finding the ecosystem weakened and the plant community changed. As a Root Resilience Fellow at the Center for Root and Rhizosphere Biology, her research applies genomic and molecular techniques to investigate how invasive species interact with the soil microbiome to change ecosystem properties from the ground up. In addition to her focus on conservation, Blocklove is

passionate about sustainable agriculture, justice in food production and empowering communities to grow nutritious local produce. When not in classes, teaching undergraduates or working in the lab, Blocklove can be found tending her plot at the Penn State Community Garden, crocheting or painting. After completing her Ph.D., Blocklove plans to pursue faculty positions where she can continue research, teaching and outreach to smallholder farmers and natural ecosystem managers.



Kareena Pandya *Pharmacology and Toxicology*

Kareena Pandya, of Edison, New Jersey, is a junior majoring in Pharmacology and Toxicology with a minor in Biology. Pandya has always had a passion for health care, the pharmaceutical industry and improving the community. She has worked as a medical scribe at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in the emergency department for the past two years and completed an internship at Merck in its Global Clinical Trial Operations team last summer, where she contributed to the drug development process, data-driven clinical trials and scientific discovery. At Penn State, she is the lead in

planning the annual Diversity in Healthcare conference, volunteers locally through the philanthropy club ServeState, works as a learning assistant for a human physiology course and is completing her honors thesis in the Center for Molecular Toxicology and Carcinogenesis through the Patterson Lab. After graduating, Pandya plans to attend medical school and pursue a career in clinical trial research.



For more information about supporting the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences, please contact

Lauren Steinberg

Senior Director of Development, at 814-865-0158 or lxs229@psu.edu, or visit **www.agsci.psu.edu/support**.

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