

**NAPB Borlaug Scholars 2022 Annual Report**  
**ACSESS468 ACSESS – NAPB Borlaug Scholars Committee**  
**July 30, 2022**

This is the NAPB Borlaug Scholars Committee Annual Report to the Executive Committee for the 2022 Annual Meeting. This program was created in January 2018. The National Association of Plant Breeders (NAPB) was established in 2010 with the following mission: *The National Association of Plant Breeders strengthens plant breeding to promote food security, quality of life, and a sustainable future.*

The committee composition from January 2022 and continuing for 2 years was:

**2021-2022 NAPB Borlaug Scholars Committee:**

**Allen Van Deynze**, Chair  
**Sarah Potts**, Vice Chair  
**Chandler Blake Maddox**, Secretary (2020 Borlaug Scholar)  
**Don Jones**, Past Chair  
**Donn Cummings**, Founding Chair  
**Aaron Lorenz**, Member at Large  
**Amy Jacobson**, Member at Large  
**Ana Maria Heilman Morales**, Member at Large  
**Bo Zhang**, Member at Large (stepped down Feb 2022)  
**Caio Canella Vieira**, Member at Large (2019 Borlaug Scholar)  
**Jodi Scheffler**, Member at Large  
**Kiru Pillay**, Member at Large  
**Mala Ganiger**, Member at Large  
**Peng Chee**, Member at Large  
**Richard Pratt**, Member at Large  
**Wayne Smith**, Member at Large

**The Vision** of the NAPB Borlaug Scholars Committee: *A sustainable annual flow of high-potential plant science students and emerging plant breeders into the professional community.*

**Our Mission:** *Selection of outstanding plant breeding students through national competition; funding these students to attend the NAPB Annual Meetings; mentoring of scholarship recipients during and after the annual meeting.*

The ASF - NAPB Borlaug Scholars Fund has grown from \$30,000 at inception in January 2018 to a current balance of **\$86,717.63**. During the last four NAPB Annual Meetings, we have funded 85 scholars.

## 2022 Highlights:

- NAPB Borlaug Scholars were given priority invitation and participation to several events including American Seed Trade Association Vegetable and Flower meetings in 2021 and 2022. This was led by Seed Central, UC Davis Plant Breeding Center and Seed Biotechnology Center. Corteva also hosted a NAPB Borlaug Scholar industry careers event.
- NAPB Borlaug scholars were highlighted at Crop Science Society, ASTA Corn, Soybean and Sorghum and ASTA veg and Flower meetings.
- NAPB scholar profiles have been publicized through the NAPB Newsletter, Website, Meeting Registration Website, Seed World, and social media channels.
- Introduction of the 2021 Class of Borlaug Scholars using their self-made 1-minute videos was highlighted during the NAPB Annual Meeting at Cornell University. This enables an expanded audience to meet each scholar.

## 2022 NAPB Borlaug Scholars Sponsors



- \$21,050 in sponsorship funds were raised from the institutions shown above in 2022, showing the continuing support from the greater plant breeding community. A portion of the contributions came from individuals too.
- All 2022 NAPB Borlaug Scholars received complementary membership and meeting registration, thanks to NAPB. They also will receive travel and accommodations expenses up to \$1500.
- In 2022, all scholars will attend the NAPB Borlaug Scholars/George Carver joint Breakfast to introduce them to the program, mentors and NAPB. The Borlaug Scholars breakfast is once again sponsored by Inari.
- SeedWorld interview podcasts are being developed for NAPB Borlaug Scholars at the meeting.

- A note: the Canadian Plant Breeding Industry has also begun a similar program as NAPB Borlaug Scholars

## 2022 Borlaug Scholars and Mentors

- For the Class of 2022, 23 Borlaug Scholars were chosen from 68 nominations submitted. Of the 23, 11 were Phd, 2 MSc. and 7 undergraduate students. A targeted effort was made to improve undergraduate applications. Thanks to Ana Mari Heilman Morales. Although, 23 is one less than the 24 (online) students supported last year, it is 11 more than we supported at the last in-person meeting in 2019. This represents the health of the program. Thus far, we have supported 85 scholars since 2018. The below Table lists the new scholars and mentors. Note we have several new mentors and past scholars that are now mentors and committee members for NAPB.

2022 NAPB Borlaug Scholar	Degree	Current School	Mentor
Rebecca Arias	Undergrad	University of Florida	Chandler Levinson*
Caitlyn Bruntz	Undergrad	Iowa State University	Deborah Menicos
Douglas Vines	Undergrad	University of Georgia	Don Jones
Terryn Hutchings	Undergrad	University of California - Davis	Hannah Senior
Bryceson G. Keali'iwiwo'oleikamaunaki'eki'e Tugade	Undergrad	University of Hawaii - West Oahu	Pat Byrne
Chenxin Luo	Undergrad	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Peng Chee
Cameron Matthews	Undergrad	Purdue University	Sarah Turner-Hissong
Dinesh Ghimire	MSc	West Virginia State University	Amanda Hulse-Kemp
Autumn Marie Brown	MSc	University of Wisconsin	Jennifer Petersen
Mitchell Allen Kent	PHD	Texas A&M University	Allen Van Deynze
Luis Salazar	PHD	University of California-Davis	Amy Jacobson
McKena Lipham	Phd	Michigan State University	Ana Maria Heilman
Mary Jane C. Espina	PHD	University of Minnesota	Brittney Jones
Sam McDonald	PHD	University of Georgia	Christoher Saski
Emmanuel Miguel Gonzalez	PHD	University of Arizona	David Bubeck
Mary-Francis LaPorte	phD	University of California- Davis	Donn Cummings
Cassondra Newman	PHD	North Carolina State University	Jodi Scheffler
Andrew McCutchen Horgan	PHD	Texas A&M University	Kiru Pillay
Edgar Sierra Orozco	PHD	University of Florida	Klaus Koehler
Anju Biswas	PHD	University of Florida	Ksenija Gasic
Liza Van der Laan	PHD	Iowa State University	Peggy Ozias- Akins
Gurleen Kaur	PHD	University of Florida	Sarah Potts
Sarah Jones	PHD	Iowa State University	Stephanie Sjoberg*

\*Past NAPB Borlaug Scholar

**NAPB Borlaug Scholars (ASF) Fund Financial Summary for 2022 (06/30/2022)**

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Contributions to NAPB Borlaug Scholars ASF fund:

Beginning Balance 1/1/2022	\$89,422.87
Donor Contributions	\$13,550.00
Investment Earnings	\$(15,577.84)
Distributions	\$(677.50)
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Balance through 06/30/2022	\$86,717.63
15% spending Floor	\$13,007.63
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Available funds	\$73,709.90

The Fund had funds to increase the number of awards to 23 in 2022, ahead of the five-year strategic plan goals. Additional funds (\$7,500) have been committed, but not yet reflected in ledgers.

Respectfully Submitted:



Allen Van Deynze,

NAPB Borlaug Scholars Chair