

## 2023 Roger Krueger Memorial Scholarship Application

Seeds are small things, but they represent tremendous technological improvements. Their truest function is to adapt and grow, becoming something else, taking on different shapes and sizes, bringing color and nourishment into our lives and ultimately, giving themselves up so we can use their goodness and potential to help us thrive.

Dr. Roger Krueger was just such a seed. A long time Board Member of the former American Seed Research Foundation (ASRF). He lived to make the world a better place and to make agriculture more able to feed the world. Roger took a special interest in mentoring the student participants in American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) programs and never missed an opportunity to challenge them. To honor Roger, the Seed Science Foundation (SSF) has established a Memorial Scholarship of \$2,000 to remember and honor Roger, who was taken from us way too soon.

Students who are currently enrolled at least half-time in an undergraduate or graduate degree program with an interest in joining the seed industry upon the completion of their studies and are members of either ASTA or NAPB are encouraged to apply. Please complete this application and return it via email to Ann Jorss, [ajorss@betterseed.org](mailto:ajorss@betterseed.org) by October 1, 2023. The winner will be selected and notified by October 31, 2023.

### The winner will have the opportunity to:

1. Attend **either** the Field Crop Seed Convention Dec. 5-8, 2023, in Orlando, FL or the Vegetable & Flower Seed Conference Jan. 26-30, 2024, in Monterey, CA. (Travel/lodging/conference registration covered by ASTA)
2. Attend the ASTA Leadership Summit June 15-19, 2024, in Nashville, TN where you will be recognized at the Awards Reception. **Your presence at the Awards Reception is required.** (Travel/lodging/conference registration covered by ASTA)
3. These conferences are some of the most important seed industry meetings in the world, attended by many seed industry professionals from all over the world. You will have the opportunity to participate in discussions and decision-making forums on some of the most important issues effecting U.S. and world seed trade. A mentor from the seed industry will be assigned to you during the conferences and can be used as a resource after the conference. Networking with seed industry leaders throughout the conferences will be one of your greatest opportunities.
4. ASTA student membership will be granted to the scholarship winner. Benefits of student membership include access to seed industry news, job and internship notifications, complimentary conference registration, and more.



**Scholarship Application Deadline: October 1, 2023**

Due to [ajorss@betterseed.org](mailto:ajorss@betterseed.org)

**Documents to include with application.**

1. Resume or CV

**Membership**

ASTA \_\_\_\_\_ NAPB \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)

**Personal Information**

Name:

Address:

Main Phone:

Date of Birth:

Email:

Emergency Contact Name:

Relationship:

Emergency Contact Phone:

LinkedIn Profile:

**Educational Information**

Current University:

Department:

Degree Sought:

Anticipated  
Graduation Date:

City, State, Zip of Univ:

Cumulative GPA (Undergraduate Students Only):

Previous Univ & Degree (if applicable):

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**Educational Interests**

Describe current/future academic focus:

Describe research focus/responsibilities (if applicable):



### Personal Reflection Statement (<= 250 words)

What do you do outside of your academic studies and university involvement?

### Open-Ended Response Essays – Choose 3 of these 4 questions to answer. (<= 250 words each)

1. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has reported that July 2023 was the warmest July in NOAA's 174-year record. The conversation about climate change is being had at all levels of government and society. Regarding the possibility of changing regional climate, what advice would you give to a seed production organization that has seed production already well-established in certain geographies?
2. Seed movement across international borders is reliant upon some type of evidence of seed health or absence of plant pathogens. In several cases, National Plant Protection Offices (NPPO's) will rely upon inexpensive, easy to use PCR detection methodologies to quantify or qualify pathogen presence. In these cases, positive detections can result in not allowing a seed lot to enter a country. As you know, PCR is very sensitive and sequence-specific, thus it can generate results that are biologically irrelevant, e.g. you can detect sequence from a "dead" pathogen. What innovative ideas can you think of that would replace or supplement PCR to accurately assess the biological relevance of positive detection?
3. Public confidence in science has been declining as of late. Given that the development of new plant varieties relies upon scientific understanding and innovation, what ideas would you be able to offer to help build public trust in the application of science and innovation to plant breeding?
4. Failing Forward - describe an event in life where you failed at something. How has this failure affected your appetite for risk?

### Agreement and Signature

By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth are true and complete.

Signature:

Date:

