

2009 Student Scholarship Winners

Undergraduate Scholarship Awards

1st place- \$2000 Award: Roberto Amador-Valdez
25 Hitchcock Road
Salinas, CA 93908
tercos04@csufresno.edu

2nd place- \$1000 Award: Brad Redelfs
6730 N. Langley
Clovis, CA 93619
bradred126@csufresno.edu

3rd place- \$500 Award: Hector Ramirez
1195 West 15th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92411
hramirez49@roadrunner.com

Graduate Scholarship Awards

1st place- \$2000 Award: Annabelle C. Kleist
1125 H Street Apt. 11
Davis, CA 95616
ackleist@ucdavis.edu

2nd place- \$1000 Award: Lynn Sweet
200 E Alessandro Blvd Apt. 18
Riverside, CA 92508
lynn.wihbey@student.ucr.edu

3rd place- \$500 Award: Anna Sherwood
University of California, Davis
Plant Sciences Dept., Mail Stop 4
Davis, CA 95616
amsherwood@ucdavis.edu

Undergraduate Internship Awards

\$3000 Internship Award: Pa Kou Yang
3134 E. Balch Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702
golden7flower@CSUFresno.edu

Internship Advisor: Richard Molinar, UC Farm Advisor Fresno

Annabelle C. Kleist Bio – graduate student

Annabelle Kleist is a third year PhD candidate in Plant Biology at the University of California, Davis. She works in Dr. Marie Jasieniuk's lab, which uses molecular tools to study the origins, spread, and evolution of invasive weeds and to identify potential management solutions. Specifically, Annabelle's project uses molecular systematic and population genetic approaches to study the ornamental sweet brooms and French brooms that have contributed to invasive populations in California. Due to her love of both research and teaching, Annabelle plans to continue studying invasive plants in her own research program as a university professor. She is particularly interested in invasive plants with persistent seed banks and plans to direct undergraduate as well as graduate research projects, as that is an ideal way to attract and train future weed scientists.

Lynn Sweet Bio – graduate student



Lynn Sweet is a PhD Candidate at UC Riverside, studying under Dr. Jodie Holt. For her dissertation, she is researching factors influencing the distribution and invasiveness of *Pennisetum setaceum* (fountain grass) and cultivars. She is currently visiting invaded sites in Southern California to quantify factors correlated with species occurrence, to help predict future invasion potential. Additionally, Lynn's research focuses on the extent to which fountain grass is competing with native coastal sage scrub species and contributing to the endangerment of this

community type. Upon graduation, she would like to continue research in the area of invasive plant distribution modeling (early detection and evaluation efforts), as well as analyzing community impacts of invasive plants.

Anna Sherwood Bio – graduate student



Anna is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Plant Biology at UC Davis. She is working on her dissertation this fall, after which she will (hopefully) start a post-doc. Anna is working towards an academic position in which she can both teach and study the evolution and spread of agricultural weeds.

Pa Kou Yang Bio - Undergraduate Internship



Left: Pa Kou Yang, Gerado, Brad, Derick, Mercel, Matthew, Amy

Pa Kou Yang is currently attending California State University, Fresno. Her major is Plant Science emphasizing in Crop Production Management, with Dr. Shretha advising her in the correct direction for her degree. Pa Kou's goal now is to finish up college with the highest

GPA possible. In the future, she would like to use her knowledge and experiences to educate others that have very little knowledge about the importance of the agriculture system. Her internship advisor is Richard Molinar, UC Farm Advisor, Fresno County.

Roberto Amador-Valdez Bio – undergraduate student



Roberto Amador-Valdez is the oldest of four brothers and one sister. He is currently attending Fresno State University pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Science/Plant Health. His advisor is Dr. Anil Shrestha. In the near future, Roberto would like to get his Pest Control Advisor license, with which to make pesticide recommendations in Monterey County.

Brad Redelfs Bio – undergraduate student

Brad will begin his final year as a Plant Science major, Plant Health emphasis, with a Weed Science specialty this coming (2009) fall at Fresno State University. His (hopeful) longer term plans include graduate school with a Weed Science emphasis. Studying under Dr. Anil Shrestha (Weed Science) at Fresno State continues to be a great educational experience and personal encouragement to him. Brad looks forward to working in the environmental sciences with a weeds expertise, and expresses his sincere gratitude for this honor.

Hector Ramirez Bio – undergraduate student

Hector currently attends Mount San Antonio College where he is studying Horticulture. He will earn an A.S. in Horticulture and transfer to UC Riverside where he plans to study Plant Sciences. Hector's academic advisor is somebody he looks up to. His name is Brian Scott, who teaches Integrated Pest Management at Mt. Sac. Professor Scott holds a Pest Control Advisor license and a QAC. After Hector completes his studies he would like to work in California agriculture as a Pest Control Advisor, and would like to transition into a teaching career after working in the field. He is very proud of this award and it is a tremendous motivation booster.