

California Weed Science Society

2016 Student Scholarship Award Recipients



Adalia Cajias – California State University, Chico

I am a current student at Chico State University. I am currently in my junior year and I am working on getting my bachelors in Crop Science with a minor in Spanish. My personal advisor is my high school Agriculture teacher, Stacy Ingalls. She is a Chico State alumni and she has helped me tremendously in getting me into Chico State and where I am today. In my future, I am not certain which direction my degree will take me but I am certain that it will be in a focus in the positive and sustainable evolution in Agriculture on a global level.



Caio Brunharo – University of California, Davis

My interest in weed science began in 2007, at the age of 17, when I was accepted at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, to study Agronomical Engineering. My commitment to agriculture and society is to help provide safe and high quality food to feed an exponentially growing world population, especially by avoiding yield losses due to weed interference and assuring that appropriate weed management techniques are applied.

In my PhD project, at UC Davis, I am studying a population of Italian ryegrass resistant to ACCase, ALS, EPSPS and PSI inhibitors from a prune orchard of California.



HannahJoy Pheasant – University of California, Davis

This fall I will be starting my master's in International Agricultural Development at UC Davis. My focus will be on identifying cultural barriers to agricultural technology adoption. My career goal is to work to improve post-harvest processing of fruits and vegetables to reduce post-harvest losses and/or provide a value-added processing step which could be done by the grower with the goal of improved food security.



Kyra Smith – California State University, Fresno

I was born and raised in New Mexico. I am currently attending California State University, Fresno in pursuit of my master's degree in Plant Science; under the guidance of Anil Shrestha. My thesis study is to demonstrate the utility of pre- emergence, residual herbicides, used in a program approach to control Junglerice and Palmer amaranth in the San Joaquin Valley. As for my future, I would either like to work in a University setting educating other students on the significance of mechanical, cultural, chemical, and biological weed control or as a consultant working with farmers on the challenges they face controlling weeds while still achieving viable crops - or maybe both!



Vivian Maier – California State University, Fresno

I am a junior attending California State Fresno pursuing a degree in Plant Science with an emphasis on Crop Management and Production. My Plant Science professor at Pierce College, Savannah St. Clair, and my advisor at Fresno State, Dayna Hill-Clark, have helped me along my path to achieve my undergraduate degree. I hope to one day apply large scale farming practices to sustainable indoor farms to help those who live in food deserts have a healthy source of nutrition and combat the invasive species that plague the areas.

Emily Bick – University of California, Davis

Emily Bick is an entomology Ph.D. student in the Nansen Lab at University of California, Davis. Her research focuses on developing and optimizing integrated pest management strategies through spatio-temporal models – specifically she is working on biological control of aquatic weed water hyacinths in the California Sacramento / Joaquin Delta.