California Weed Science Society
2017 Student Scholarship Award Recipients

This year, the society has awarded 8 scholarships in the amount of $1000 each. The students include:

HannahJoy Pheasant – University of California, Davis
A Masters student at U.C. Davis, HannahJoy is studying International Agricultural Development. Her goal is to develop innovative technology for the agricultural sector to increase economic opportunities and reduce backbreaking labor. Her thesis project is working to develop automated weed control systems that achieve significant reductions in need for hand weeding and herbicides while maintaining a practical and cost-effective weed control system.

Emily Bick – University of California, Davis
A PhD student at U.C. Davis, Emily is in the Entomology Graduate Group where she is examining the use of spatio-temporal models to predict population dynamics of an invasive aquatic weed.

Alex Ceseski – University of California, Davis
A PhD student at U.C. Davis in the Horticulture and Agronomy Graduate Group with an emphasis on Weed Science. Alex is studying rice systems in California and is specifically looking at mapping the extent and spread of ALS-inhibitor resistance and cross-resistance throughout the California rice-growing region, and hopes to be able to elucidate the precise genetic and/or metabolic mechanisms of that resistance in select smallflower umbrella sedge populations. Alex is also continuing to work on using alternative rice seeding strategies to enhance weed control.

Katie McCauley – University of California, Davis
A PhD student at U.C. Davis in the Horticulture and Agronomy Graduate Group with an emphasis on Weed Science. Katie’s research focuses on understanding herbicide resistance in sprangletop, an important weed in California. Her research includes determining the mode of resistance and what physiological and biochemical changes can cause the resistance. In addition, she is conducting research to find new tools to manage herbicide resistant weeds in California rice cropping systems.
Diane Camarena Onofre – California State University, Fresno
An undergraduate student at CSU Fresno, Diane is majoring in Plant Science with an emphasis in Plant Health. Diane is currently working with her professors examining the germination conditions of Sprangeltop. In addition she is also working on a project looking at glyphosate resistant Fleabane.

Adalia Cajias – California State University, Chico
An undergraduate student at CSU Chico, Adalia is majoring in Crop Science & Horticulture. She is passionate about sustainable agriculture production and weed control.

James “Sunny” Brucker – California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
An undergraduate student at Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo, James is majoring in Agricultural and Environmental Plant Science with a concentration in Fruit and Crop Science. James is currently working on getting his PCA and CCA licenses and is confident that weed control and management practices will play a major role in his career.

May Yang – Cal State University, Fresno
An undergraduate student at CSU Fresno, May is majoring in Plant Science with an emphasis in Plant Health. May has a strong interest in weed science in agricultural systems and would like to further pursue her education as a graduate student studying weed resistance.