California Weed Science Society
2018 Student Scholarship Award Recipients

This year, the society has awarded 10 scholarships in the amount of $1000 each. The students include:

Mikayla Harmer – California State University, Chico
I will be attending Chico State in the fall as a Land Resource Management major. My career goals include working on/developing an invasive weed management program at the county agriculture office in our area, or for the BLM recreation department.

Patrick Dotsy – California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
This Fall I will be a senior at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. I am majoring in Agricultural Business with a minor in fruit science under my advisor, Dr. Lynn Hamilton. I plan to obtain my PCA license upon graduation and be a crop protection sales representative for Corteva Agriscience (The newly merged DowDupont).

Haejung Kim – Mt. San Antonio College
Haejung Kim is a horticulture student at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, CA. After working as a motion graphics designer for 13 years, she is now pursuing her love of plants and the outdoors. She is studying to become a PCA in the near future.

Liberty Galvin – University of California, Davis

Liberty Galvin is a PhD student working under Kassim Al-Khatib in the Horticulture and Agronomy graduate group at University of California, Davis. She is conducting research to determined best management practices for reducing pervasiveness of weedy rice in California rice crops. Currently, she is exploring the range of biophysical conditions necessary for breaking dormancy, germination, and emergence of five genetically distinct weedy rice biotypes. In the future Liberty hopes to work in an extension and outreach setting with the goal of becoming a communication intermediary between the creators and implementers of research outcomes.

Andrew McHaney – California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Andrew McHaney is going into his fourth year at California Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo as Agricultural and Environmental Plant Science major. He has spent a lot of time over the last few summers working on the Central Coast interning as a Pest Control Advisor Trainee. This year he has had a lot of experience in the application and recommendation writing processes for herbicide sprays. Besides sprays he has also had experience with Integrated Pest Control techniques and looks forward to heading back to Cal Poly in the fall to get well rounded exposure to all aspects of crop production.

Steven Haring – University of California, Davis

Steven Haring is currently a PhD student at UC Davis working with Dr. Brad Hanson. He is studying weed ecology with the goal of developing integrated weed management programs for almond orchards. After graduation, Steven hopes to work in an extension or outreach career that will allow him to collaborate with growers and improve their farm operations.

Alex Ceseski – University of California, Davis
Ph.D. student under Dr Kassim Al-Khatib, UC Davis

I'm working on elucidating the genetic and/or metabolic mechanisms of ALS-inhibitor resistance in smallflower umbrellas sedge (*Cyperus difformis*), a major weed of California rice. I have already found that ALS cross-resistance is widespread throughout the region, and that several ALS-resistant populations of smallflower are also resistant to propanil. Knowledge of the incidence and distribution of this cross- and multiple-resistance can help growers make informed choices in their herbicide program.

I am also developing a drill-seeding program for California rice that utilizes existing cultivars planted at depths below one inch. My working hypothesis is that deeper seeding puts the rice below the weed seedbank, allowing for a postplant-preemergence burndown application of glyphosate or another economical broad-spectrum herbicide. This technique could result in reduced per-acre herbicide costs and reduced selection pressure for resistance to current rice herbicides to develop. It may also be a useful technique in fields with infestations of weedy (red) rice, which is tolerant to current rice herbicides. Currently I am evaluating a cultivar that shows promising emergence and stand development at up to 2-inch seeding depth.

Drew Wolter – University of California, Davis
M.S. Student, Horticulture and Agronomy Graduate Group

I am pursuing a Master of Science in Horticulture and Agronomy from the University of California, Davis. I study and work as a graduate student researcher under Dr. Brad Hanson where I seek to better understand the biology and control of Eleusine tristachya, a poorly understood but increasingly noxious weed in California orchard systems. My professional goal is to serve my community as a Cooperative Extension Farm Advisor, specifically working with orchard and vineyards, and acting as a liaison between our state's farmers and academic researchers.