
Member-at-Large—Academia

Connor Webster



Dr. Connor Webster joined Louisiana State University as an Assistant Professor and Extension Weed Specialist in February of 2022, working in Rice Weed Science. Connor is a native of north Alabama where he grew up scouting/consulting in cotton, soybeans, and corn. He received a B.S. in Agronomy and Soils from Auburn University in 2017, and soon after began working on a M.S. in Weed Science at LSU. Immediately following graduation in 2019, he began working towards a Ph.D. in Weed Science at LSU and defended his dissertation in December of 2021.

As a graduate student, Connor was an active member of the WSSA, SWSS, and the Rice Technical Working Group (RTWG). He was recognized for several accomplishments across these societies throughout his graduate career. He placed first place in the student oral competition at the RTWG meeting in 2018, placed second place in the Ph.D. oral competition at the SWSS meeting in 2020, and placed second place in the student poster competition at the RTWG meeting in 2020. Connor was also a member of the third place LSU weed team in both 2018 and 2021 and in 2021 he finished as the fourth place individual and won the weed identification section of the contest.

Connor currently has published 2 peer-reviewed publications in Weed Technology and is preparing several others, is an author on 60 abstracts, 11 invited international presentations, and gave 9 extension presentations as a graduate student. Connor is currently serving as the Local Arrangements Chair for the SWSS meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 2023. Connor resides in Zachary, Louisiana with his wife Reagen and daughter Annie.

Charlie Cahoon



Charlie Cahoon is an Associate Professor and Extension Weed Specialist in the Crop and Soil Sciences Department at North Carolina State University. Charlie was born and raised in the blacklands of eastern North Carolina (Swan Quarter) where he worked on his family's row crop, vegetable, and hog farm. Charlie attended Mattamuskeet High School where he was an active member of FFA, 4-H, and lettered in baseball and football. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from North Carolina State University with a BS in Agronomy-Soil Science in 2011. While still an undergraduate, Charlie stumbled into a summer job working for the legendary Extension Weed Specialist, Dr. Alan York. Following that summer, Charlie knew he had found his calling and commenced his graduate education in Weed Science under the direction of Drs. York and David Jordan. He received his PhD in 2015 and later that year began his career as an Extension Weed Specialist at Virginia Tech. Based at the Eastern Shore AREC in Painter, Virginia, Charlie had sole responsibilities for weed management in cotton, peanuts, and vegetables and split grain responsibilities with Dr. Michael Flessner. In 2018, Charlie was fortunate to replace his mentor at North Carolina State University as the Extension Weed Specialist for corn and cotton. In addition to his extension and research duties, Charlie teaches a cross-listed undergraduate/graduate introductory Weed Science course and guest lectures in various other classes. Charlie has authored or co-authored 34 peer-reviewed papers, 39 peer-reviewed extension publications, and 74 meeting abstracts. He has mentored 7 MS and 1 PhD students and served as a committee member for 14 additional students.

Charlie has served on several Southern Weed Science Society, Northeastern Weed Science Society, and Weed Science Society of America committees. In service to the Southern Weed Science Society, Charlie serves annually as a judge or moderator for the graduate student oral contest. From 2017 to 2019, Charlie served on the Southern Weed Science Society Student Contest Committee that culminated as committee chair for the 2019 annual meeting in Oklahoma City. As chair of the committee, Charlie organized the 2019 Graduate Student Contest that included 72 participants and 45 judges across nine separate contest sections. He has also chaired the Outstanding Educator Subcommittee and has been a member of the Continuing Education Unit Committee. Additionally, Charlie currently serves as Vice President of the Weed Science Society of North Carolina and is an active member of the Crop Protection Association of NC, Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers, and the NC Association of County Agricultural Agents. Charlie is a Deacon at Wendell Baptist Church where he also serves on the Administrative Team, Security Team, and is a substitute Sunday school and Royal Ambassador teacher. In his spare time he enjoys tinkering on his 1962 John Deere 1010 tractor, traveling, farming/gardening, hunting/fishing, reading, playing cards, cheering on the Wolfpack (and Hokies), and spending time with his wife, two children, and yellow lab.

Member-at-Large—Industry

Delaney Foster



Delaney Foster grew up in Perry, Georgia, where her parents raised beef show cattle and horses. Delaney received her B.S. degree in Agriculture at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) in Tifton, GA in 2018. While at ABAC, she worked for Dr. Stanley Culpepper at the University of Georgia Tifton campus and interned with Dr. Henry McLean, field scientist with Syngenta Crop Protection. As an undergraduate, Delaney placed first at the Southern Weed Science Society Weed Contest in the summer of 2018. These experiences opened the door for her to discover a career path in weed science. Delaney obtained her M.S. degree in Plant and Soil Sciences from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. She studied under the direction of Dr. Peter Dotray who holds a joint appointment with Texas Tech University and Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Service. She is currently working towards a Ph.D. in weed science at the University of Tennessee with extension weed specialist Dr. Larry Steckel. She will defend her dissertation titled “Characterization and Management of Auxin-Resistant Palmer amaranth in Tennessee” this fall and graduate in December 2022.

Delaney has proven successful in many oral and poster competitions at both regional and national society and commodity meetings, placing first at the Texas Tech 3MT Competition, the Texas Plant Protection Association poster contest, the Beltwide Cotton Conference oral paper contest (MS & PhD), and the SWSS oral paper contest (MS & PhD). She was a member of the first-place sprayer calibration team of the SWSS at the North American Weed Science Contest in 2019 while at Texas Tech. At the SWSS weeds contest in 2021, she was a member of the winning sprayer calibration team again while a part of the University of Tennessee weed team and tied for first place in the individual sprayer calibration contest. Delaney has had the pleasure to serve as the secretary of the SWSS graduate student organization and the vice president and president of the WSSA graduate student organization. She was recognized as the SWSS Outstanding Master’s Student at the annual meeting in 2021.

In July, Delaney began her career with Syngenta Crop Protection as a Developmental Agronomy Service Representative in Greensboro, NC. Upon completion of the developmental program, Delaney hopes to service her own region as an agronomist with Syngenta. She is excited to kick-start her career in industry with the hopes of serving the SWSS as the Industry Member-at-Large.

Adam Hixson



Adam grew up in a small rural town in Central Texas with a thriving agricultural community. This is where he found his passion for agriculture at an early age. He is currently a Technical Service Representative with BASF Corporation responsible for numerous crops, including cotton, corn, sorghum, wheat, alfalfa, sunflowers, pecans, and many others. His territory includes West Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. He has been with BASF for 14 years, spending his first 3 years in Raleigh, NC as a part of the Research and Development group working as a project leader in Soybean Herbicide Development. During my career in Research and Development and Technical Service, I have also had the opportunity to participate in many research projects, customer education efforts, sales training, and intern/professional development training, etc. These experiences have been both enjoyable and educational to me and have resulted in the formation of countless professional contacts and most importantly, friends.

Adam has a B.S. degree in Entomology from Texas A&M University (2000), a M.S. in Nematology from University of Florida (2003), and Ph.D. in Weed Science from North Carolina State University (2008). He is involved in numerous local agricultural organizations, including the Texas Plant Protection Association where he recently served as the President in 2020. This organization is comprised of university and industry representatives from across the State of Texas with the goal of providing education conferences for all involved in production agriculture.

Adam has been involved in the Southern Weed Science Society since 2003, both as a graduate student and industry representative. He served as the SWSS Graduate Student Organization President in 2007-2008 where he developed a deep appreciation for the society and its mission to provide solutions to growers’ ever-changing weed challenges. He has served as graduate student contest judge numerous times giving him the privileged opportunity to interact with the future leaders in the Weed Science discipline. Additionally, he has been involved in helping local graduate students at Texas Tech University train for the annual SWSS Weed Contest. Adam currently resides in Lubbock, TX, the center of the largest cotton patch in the world, where he enjoys spending his free time with his wife, Kelly, son, Chase, and daughter, Kylie.

Secretary-Treasurer

Hunter Perry



Hunter is currently a Field Scientist for Corteva agriscience encompassing a Mississippi and Louisiana territory. Hunter is a native of Greenville, MS where his earliest agricultural research experiences were achieved through working at local crop protection and seed research stations. He earned his B.S. and M.S from Mississippi State university in Golf and Sports Turf Management (2005) and Plant Pathology (2007), respectively. He earned his Ph.D. in Weed Science from Auburn University in 2011, before joining Dow AgroSciences that same year. His current responsibilities include pesticide development, supporting the Midsouth sales district and serving as the zonal biology leader for rice herbicides in the U.S.

Hunter has been actively involved in the SWSS since 2008, both as a student as an industry professional. During his time with the SWSS, he has served as Secretary/Treasurer and as Chair and Vice Chair of the graduate student paper and poster contests multiple times. He served as an Endowment Trustee for three years where he worked with other members of the Endowment Committee to ensure the group accomplished its educational objectives. Hunter organized the SWSS Annual Golf Tournament from 2014 – 2020 and with the help of

Scott Nolte



Scott Nolte was raised on a small row-crop and livestock farm near Salem, Illinois. At Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL, he earned his B.S. degree in Plant and Soil Science in 1997, M.S. degree in Weed Science in 2001, and Ph.D. degree in biotechnology and weed science in 2009. Scott worked in the weed science program at SIU as a research technician while pursuing his Ph.D. under Dr. Bryan Young.

In the fall of 2009, Dr. Nolte went to work for Monsanto where he held roles in Regulatory Science for 5 years and Technology Development for 3 years. He then joined the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences at Texas A&M University in the Fall of 2017 as the State Extension Weed Specialist. His position is 100% extension appointment with responsibility for providing statewide leadership in effective, profitable, and sustainable weed management in cotton, corn, sorghum, soybean, pastures, and hayfields in Texas. His research is focused on weed management systems that deal with difficult to control weeds in these crops. Dr. Nolte has also focused on research related to managing off-target movement of herbicides. He has developed and delivered educational programs such as auxin applicator training, herbicide resistance management, and weed ID & herbicide mode of action training to county agents, department of ag inspectors, pesticide applicators, and producers across Texas. In 2020, he received the Texas Plant Protection Association (TPPA) Academic/Agency Award.

Dr. Nolte has been active in professional organizations throughout his career, including the Southern Weed Science Society, the North Central Weed Science Society, and the Weed Science Society of America. He recently served as the chair of the WSSA range and pasture section, chair of the SWSS agronomic row crops section, and serves as a member of the WSSA extension committee.

Vice President

Matthew Wiggins



Matthew Wiggins serves as a Regional Business Manager with FMC covering the Mid-south. His passion of agriculture started from being active in 4-H and FFA showing beef cattle and participating in many different development events. Matthew received a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, with an emphasis in Agricultural Engineering Technology (2009) from Tennessee Technological University. Upon graduation, Matthew attended the University of Tennessee and received his M.S. (2012) in Plant Sciences and Ph.D. in Weed Science (2014), under the guidance of Dr. Larry Steckel. His Ph.D. research focused on herbicide-resistance management by integrating winter-annual cover crops and herbicide programs to control Palmer amaranth in corn, cotton, and soybean systems.

Matthew received several awards during his graduate school career and professional career from regional and national organizations. Most recently, he was recognized by SWSS as the Outstanding Young Weed Scientist – Industry in 2021. FMC also recognized Matthew by awarding him the Ignite Award and the Tower Award in 2020. Additionally, he was recognized in 2017 by the Weed Science Society of America as an author for the Outstanding Paper Published in Weed Technology in 2016.

Matthew is involved in many organizations both regionally and nationally, including the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (past president), Southern Soybean Diseases Workers, Kentucky Agriculture Training School, the Crop Protection Network (advisory board), and SWSS. He continues to serve the Southern Weed Science Society by volunteering to participate on various committees and supporting graduate student activities. Matthew currently serves as the Student Contest Program Chair, SWSS Weed Contest Chair, and will rotate on to committees and sub-committees in the coming years.

Eric Palmer



Eric Palmer was born in Memphis, TN and grew up on a grain and cattle farm near Mount Pleasant, MS. He received his B.S. in Agricultural Pest Management (1995) and M.S. in Weed Science (1998) from Mississippi State University under the direction of Dr. David Shaw. He went on to complete his PhD in Crop Science at Oklahoma State University under the direction of Dr. Don Murray in 2001.

Eric began his professional career as an R&D Scientist with Syngenta Crop Protection at the Eastern Region Technical Center near Hudson, NY in 2001. In 2004, he was transferred to MS where he worked on the Southern Region Technical Center near Leland, MS for two years before becoming the Crop Protection Field Development Rep for Mississippi. In 2008, Eric became an R&D Group Leader for Weed Control at Syngenta's Vero

Beach Research Center near Vero Beach, FL where he coordinated Stage 1 herbicide testing for the U.S. and led a team of four full-time Scientists who conducted a diverse herbicide research program. In 2012, Eric moved to the Syngenta North American headquarters in Greensboro, NC to lead early-stage herbicide development as the Herbicide Product Biology Technical Manager. In September, Eric moved to Product Marketing team where he is currently the Technical Product Lead for soybean herbicides.

Eric has been involved with the SWSS by serving as the Graduate Student Representative while at Oklahoma State. He has also been a judge for the Graduate Student paper contest and has helped with the SWSS Weed Contest on several occasions. Eric has served on the SWSS Board as a Member At-Large from Industry and as the SWSS Representative on the WSSA Board. In 2011, Eric received the SWSS Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award for Industry.

Outside of work, Eric is an instrument-rated private pilot who enjoys flying, spending time with family, and hunting.

Endowment Foundation

Spencer Samuelson



Spencer was raised in the small dairy farming community of Cornish, Utah where his family raised livestock for market and 4-H/FFA shows at the county and state level. Upon starting his undergraduate degree, he discovered he had a greater passion for plants over animals and pursued that passion earning his bachelor's split between Utah State University and Brigham Young University-Idaho, majoring in Range, Ecology, Wildlife, and Fisheries, with an emphasis in Rangeland Management. Following completion of his undergraduate studies in 2012 Spencer taught high school for two years. In 2014 Spencer joined the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Pesticide Application Technology Laboratory for a master's degree in Weed Science under the advisement of Dr. Greg Kruger. After completing his master's, Spencer joined the Weed Science program at Texas A&M University to pursue his doctorate under the advisement of Dr. Muthukumar Bagavathiannan. In 2020 Spencer

completed his doctorate and began his professional career, joining Corteva Agriscience as a Field Scientist covering South Texas and New Mexico. He currently resides in Bryan, Texas with his wife and four children.

Spencer has enjoyed his involvement in professional societies in his short time, and has historically served as the 2016 Vice-Chair for the graduate student committee for the North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS), Secretary for the 2019 Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) graduate student organization, and as a Student Contest Judge for the 2021 & 2022 Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS) annual meeting, 2022 Cotton Beltwide Conferences, and for the 2019-2022 Texas Science and Engineering Fair. During his attendance as a graduate student in the respective societies, Spencer earned 1st (2020 WSSA) and 2nd (2019 WSSA) place PhD poster presentations and has authored or co-authored in 43 professional poster and paper presentations. Among his favorite ways of participating in the societies was his participation in the NCWSS and SWSS weed contests where he placed on the 2nd place NCWSS graduate teams (2015 & 2016) and 3rd place graduate team at the National Weed Olympics (2015). At SWSS weed contests he earned 3rd place graduate team (2017) and 2nd place graduate team (2019). Since graduating he volunteered at the 2021 SWSS weed contest and provided over 30 plant species for the weed identification portion of the contest. He even aspires to aid in hosting a contest if occasion ever permitted.

His attendance in societal meetings has greatly enriched his professional experience and he hopes to return the favor to the next generation of weed scientists by serving in whatever capacities he can benefit and is needed.

Sam Rustom



Sam Rustom, Jr. is a Greenwood, Miss. native and graduate of Pillow Academy. He earned a Bachelor's in Environmental Science from Delta State University in 2014, while completing an internship with Monsanto in Leland, Mississippi. Sam then moved to Baton Rouge, La. where he received both his master's and doctoral degrees in Weed Science from Louisiana State University in 2017 and 2020, respectively. While at LSU, Sam worked under the direction Dr. Eric Webster, conducting weed control research in rice. His research as a master's student was focused on herbicide tank-mix interactions in Provisia rice production. As a PhD student, Sam was awarded full-time employment from LSU while he focused his research on florypyrauxifen-benzyl use in Louisiana rice. Sam finished at LSU with 99 publications including seven refereed journal articles, three of which he was senior author.

Sam has been active with SWSS since 2015. In addition, he has also won several first-place awards for oral presentations at both SWSS and WSSA conferences. Sam was an active participant in the SWSS Weed Contest from 2015-2020 and was a third-place team member in 2018. In 2020 and 2021, Sam served as session chair of the Physiological and Biological Aspects of Weed Control at the SWSS Conference and aided with local arrangements in 2020. In 2021, Sam was awarded Outstanding Graduate Student – PhD for the SWSS.

In addition to SWSS and WSSA memberships, Sam serves as a board member of the Texas Plant Protection Association and as an active member the Rice Technical Working Group and American Peanut Research and Education Society.

Since his graduation in 2020, Sam has worked for FMC as a Technical Service Manager supporting Texas and New Mexico. He currently resides in Katy, Texas with his wife, Leigh, and their German shepherd, Pippa.

Proceedings Editor

Paul Tseng



Dr. Te-Ming “Paul” Tseng is an Associate Professor in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences at Mississippi State University. He received his B.S. in Biotechnology from Bangalore University, India, and his M.S. in Plant Biotechnology from Allahabad Agricultural Institute, India. He obtained his Ph.D. in Cell & Molecular Biology in Weed Science from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Following his Ph.D., he worked as a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Arkansas (weed physiology) and Purdue University (quantitative plant pathology).

He is currently working on identifying herbicide-resistant mechanisms in plants and characterizing competitive traits in weeds to understand the genes and/or biochemical pathways associated with these competitive traits. He has advised and successfully graduated 6 Doctoral and 4 Master's students. Currently, he is advising 3 Doctoral and 3 Master's student and has been on 5 Doctoral and 9 Master's committees.

Dr. Tseng has authored or co-authored 60 peer-reviewed journal articles, 6 book chapters, and 159 conference proceedings (104 in national/regional weed science proceedings). He serves as an active reviewer of federal and state grants, including the NSF, USDA AMS, USDA NIFA, MS NASA EPSCoR, Southern SARE, and Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research. He is also on the Editorial Board of Weed Science, Crop Science, Plant Gene (Elsevier), and Frontiers in Plant Science.

He has won several awards, including the WSSA Early Career Outstanding Scientist Award, MSU Excellence in Teaching Award, WSSA Outstanding Reviewer Award, MSU Outstanding Faculty Service Award, AASIO Early Career Agricultural Scientist Award, William M. White Special Project Awards, MSU OSLCE Outstanding Mentor Award, WSSA Weed Team Coach Award (third place), MSU Provost Schillig Special Teaching Award, Southeastern Conference Faculty Travel Award, and the International Weed Science Society Travel Award.

Dr. Tseng is very active in service to the weed science community, having been chosen for several leadership roles within the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS), and the International Weed Science Society (IWSS). Dr. Tseng currently serves as the Editor of the SWSS Proceedings, the Treasurer of the IWSS, and the WSSA representative to the Technical Advisory Group for Biological Control Agents of Weeds (a USDA APHIS unit). He chaired the WSSA Physiology Session, WSSA Soil and Environmental Aspects Session, WSSA Teaching and Extension Session, and SWSS Physiological and Biological Aspect of Weed Control.

Dr. Tseng is an active member of the Southern Weed Science Society and Weed Science Society of America and has been involved in SWSS/WSSA meetings since 2008. He has been married to Sally and is blessed with one son and one daughter.

Stephen Enloe



Dr. Enloe is a professor and extension specialist at the IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants at the University of Florida. He has been involved with invasive plant research and extension for the past two decades and has worked throughout the western and southeastern United States on developing innovative management strategies for many of the worst invasive tree, shrub, vine, and herbaceous species in the US. Dr. Enloe earned his Ph.D at UC Davis in Plant Biology under Joe DiTomaso, a Master's degree in weed science from Colorado State University under Phil Westra and Scott Nissen, and an undergraduate degree in Agronomy from N.C. State.

SWSS Representative to WSSA

Peter Dotray



Peter Dotray is the Rockwell Chair of Weed Science and Extension Weed Specialist with Texas Tech University, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service - Lubbock. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Minnesota, his M.S. degree from Washington State University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He started his current three-way appointment in Lubbock in 1993. Peter teaches Principles of Weed Science to undergraduate and graduate students and Mode and Mechanism of Herbicide to graduate students. These courses are taught on-campus and online to students off-campus. He conducts weed control research in several crops including cotton, peanut, grain sorghum, corn, and sesame. He has secured over \$5 million dollars in external research support. Peter also serves as an Extension Weed Specialist in District 2, a 20-county area home to 3.5 million acres of cotton on the Texas Southern High Plains. Peter has served as the major advisor or co-advisor of 43 graduate students, has served on 39 graduate committees, and has five graduate students in progress. He has authored or co-authored 99 journal articles, 542 abstracts/proceedings, and has made 891 seminars and presentations at grower meetings. For the Southern Weed Science Society, Peter served as Proceedings Editor, CAST Representative, Board Member At-large, Vice President, President Elect, President, and Past President, and numerous other committees. He received the SWSS Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award and SWSS Outstanding Educator Award. He is a Fellow of the American Peanut Research and Education Society and the Southern Weed Science Society.

Peter Dittmar



Dr. Peter Dittmar is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in the Horticultural Sciences Department at the University of Florida. His role includes Director of the North Florida IR4 Field Lab. He received his MS and PhD from North Carolina State University.

Peter has research and extension responsibilities for weed management in vegetable, deciduous fruit, and nut crops. His research interest includes fallow period systems management, weed ecology, and methyl bromide alternatives. His extension programs include pesticide application safety, weed identification, and appropriate weed management selection. His IR4 program completes pesticide residue experiments for minor use pesticide registrations and communicating with growers on pesticide needs.

Peter has been a member of SWSS since 2005 and has served the society in many ways. He has served on the Resolutions and Necrology and Research committees and chair of the Young Weed Scientist Subcommittee. He has also been a judge for the oral/poster student contest and chair of the Fruit and Vegetable Section. Peter was awarded the SWSS Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award in 2019. He is also a member of the Weed Science Society and serving as an Associate Editor of Weed Technology and member/chair of committees.