

2021 SWSS Endowment Enrichment Scholarship

Purpose: Provide an opportunity for SWSS graduate and undergraduate students to participate in a week-long educational experience with Industry or Academia.

Student Application Deadline: Gary Schwarzlose (gary.schwarzlose@bayer.com) must receive applications by May 14, 2021. Please put “SWSS Enrichment Scholarship Application” in the subject line. Submission of all information into a single PDF file is preferred, but not required.

Description of Scholarship: Scholarship winners will have a week-long educational experience of their choosing as described in Tables 1 and 2. Opportunities include learning among many areas of weed science including experiences from the field to the lab, in research or extension, and with industry or academia. Winners will be provided \$1500 from the SWSS Endowment to pay for expenses incurred during their experience.

Eligibility Requirements: Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. The applicant must be an undergraduate or graduate student in good academic standing enrolled in a degree program (B.S., M.S., or Ph.D.) at an accredited college or university in the southern region.
2. Graduate students must be actively conducting, or have recently finished, research in the area of weed science. Undergraduates must document their interest in the area of weed science.
3. **The applicant must be a member of the SWSS at the time of application.**
4. **The applicant must present a 10-minute paper and submit an abstract about their experience at the SWSS annual meeting following their experience.** Specifics will be provided directly to winners.

Application Procedure:

1. Complete application form (*example provided on page 5*).
2. Cover letter describing applicants’ interest in weed science and the scholarship (< 1 page).
3. Brief resume or CV summary highlighting recent relevant experiences (< 1 page).
4. Two letters of support, one of which must be from the student’s graduate or major advisor.
5. Academic transcripts (unofficial copy is acceptable).
6. Email application information to Gary Schwarzlose (gary.schwarzlose@bayer.com) by May 14, 2021, with “SWSS Enrichment Scholarship” in subject line.

Selection Criteria and Process: Applicants will be evaluated based on contribution of research to the discipline of weed science and to the SWSS objectives, academic record and scholarly achievements, and potential contributions to the future of weed science. Submitted applications will be distributed to the Endowment Board members where each member of the committee evaluates and ranks the applicants as shown on the Application Evaluation Form on page 4. Judging will not be done by individuals with a personal or advisory affiliation with an applicant.

Timeline: Students must submit applications by May 14, 2021. The scholarship selection process will be completed by May 28, 2021. Scholarship winners and their host will determine the date in 2021 for the experience to occur. The Endowment Board will function as a liaison between the scholarship winners and their hosts throughout the process.

Revising Guidelines or Procedures: The Endowment Board can make changes or revisions to the scholarship guidelines and operating procedures as more experience is obtained. The Board welcomes suggestions from the membership on methods to improve this experience for students.

Table 1. University host opportunities provided for the SWSS Endowment Enrichment Scholarship.

Academic Hosts	Location	Experience
LSU: Eric Webster	St. Joseph, LA	Weed management in agronomic crops including cotton and rice
Mississippi State University: Darrin Dodds	Starkville, MS	See all aspects of cotton production as well as potentially see UAV's, visit with our genomics folks, and visit our virtual reality cave located on campus.
Mississippi State University Te-Ming (Paul) Tseng	Starkville, MS.	Research focused on studying the physiology of herbicide resistance and characterizing the genetic basis of competitive traits in weeds using an interdisciplinary approach including molecular biology, cell biology, genetics, remote sensing, biochemistry, pathology, and agronomy. Identifying molecular mechanisms of resistance to various herbicide modes of action. Remote sensing to identify weed species and quantify herbicide crop injury.
Texas A&M University Muthu Bagavathiannan	College Station, TX	Applicant will gain exposure to IWM and precision ag research
Texas Tech: Peter Dotray	Lubbock, TX	Weed management in agronomic crops
University of Arkansas Bob Scott	Little Rock, AR Stuttgart, AR	Rice Breeding, Research Station operations, Tour of State Cooperative Extension Service Facilities and Activities
University of Florida Greg MacDonald Peter Dittmar	Gainesville, FL	Weed management in agronomic crops, horticultural crops, and pastures, and managing invasive weeds
University of Tennessee James Brosnan	Knoxville, TN	Turf weed management
University of Tennessee Tom Mueller	Knoxville, TN	Weed control in corn and soybean; environmental fate of herbicides; laboratory research methods

Table 2. Industry host opportunities provided for the SWSS Endowment Enrichment Scholarship.

Industry Hosts	Location	Experience
<p>Bayer CropScience – Gary Schwarzlose, Russ Perkins, John Everitt, Greg Steele – Scott Russell / Keith Rucker – Jay Mahaffey / Sam Garris – Greg Elmore</p>	<p>Texas tour Georgia tour Delta tour St. Louis Office</p>	<p>Research and demonstration trials in multiple crops and disciplines; field tours; operation on an industry research and demonstration facility. Exposure to Trait and Crop Protection R&D, Development, and Technical Services aspects of the organization. Gain experience with field trials, University and customer interaction, and corporate activities.</p>
<p>Diligence Technologies Tim Adcock</p>	<p>Jackson, TN</p>	<p>Ins and outs of contract research</p>
<p>FMC Matthew Wiggins</p>	<p>Humboldt, TN</p>	<p>Exposure to cotton, corn, soybean, tobacco, rice. Research and demonstration plots; diagnosing field complaints, grower, consultant, retail, university, and industry relations</p>
<p>Syngenta Scott Moore - Nematologist</p>	<p>Monroe, LA</p>	<p>Nematodes and pest management (insect, disease, and weeds) in cotton, soybean, corn, and rice.</p>
<p>Syngenta James Holloway</p>	<p>Jackson, TN</p>	<p>Crop Protection Field Development</p>
<p>Syngenta Ethan Parker</p>	<p>Vero Beach, FL</p>	<p>Research and demonstration.</p>
<p>Valent Frank Carey</p>	<p>Olive Branch, MS</p>	<p>A combination intern experience will include two days with a technical service manager in the Midsouth, two days at the Valent research station in Leland, MS and one day with Valent’s regulatory manager</p>

Scholarship Application Form

1. Applicant Name:

2. Selection of Host Institution for the SWSS Endowment Experience:

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Third Choice: _____

3. Cover Letter (max 1 page):

4. Resume or CV Summary (max 1 page):

5. Academic Transcript (official transcripts NOT required):

5. Include two letters of support, including one from your academic advisor.