



Institute of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Genomics

College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

**IPBGG EXTENDS A HEARTY WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING
NEW STUDENTS FOR SUMMER AND FALL SEMESTER 2018:**



Lincoln Adams

Mr. Lincoln Adams is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program for 2018. He is working with Dr. Cecilia McGregor, and his duties include greenhouse, field and laboratory research and training in the vegetable breeding program.

Lincoln received his Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Biology from the University of Georgia in May of 2018.

Mr. Adams's work experience includes positions as a research assistant in UGA's Donovan Laboratory (2016-2017) and more recently as a greenhouse research assistant in the UGA Plant Pathology Greenhouses (2017-2018).

Please welcome Lincoln to our Institute, his work space is located at: Miller Plant Sciences Room 1102. His email address is: Lincoln.adams@uga.edu



Katherine Catching

Ms. Katherine Catching is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program for 2018. She is working with Dr. Wayne Parrott in his Molecular Biology lab and also with Dr. Paul Raymer in his Breeding and Genetics lab.

Ms. Catching received her Associate of Science degree from Santa Rosa Junior College in 2015 and then went on to earn her Bachelor of Science degree in Botany with a minor in Chemistry from Humboldt State University in 2018.

Katherine's previous work experience includes her roles as a supplemental instruction leader at Humboldt State University (2016-2018) where she assisted with lesson plans and student questions as well as her work as a general science tutor at the HSU Learning Center (2017-2018) where she tutored students in biology, chemistry, physics and math.

Katherine is joining us at UGA from Arcata, California. Please welcome her to our Institute, her work space is located at: CAGT Room 141. Her email address is: Katherine.Catching@uga.edu



Lovepreet Chahal

Mr. Lovepreet Chahal is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program for 2018. He is working with Dr. Joann Conner and Dr. Peggy Ozias-Akins. His duties include research on apomixis and embryo development in the laboratory, greenhouse, and field.

In 2018, Lovepreet received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Punjab Agricultural University and graduated with honors in his major area of study; Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology.

Mr. Chahal's experience includes several internships, most recently working with Dr. Johar Singh where he was screening wheat genotypes for heat stress tolerance (2017-2018).

Please welcome Mr. Chahal to our Institute, his work space is located at: CAGT Room 214. His email address is: LovepreetSingh.Chahal@uga.edu

Kendall Lee



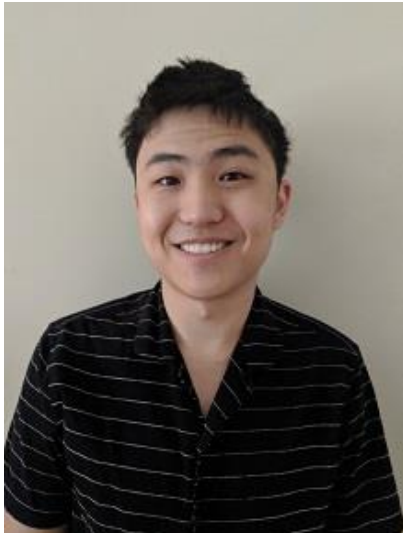
Ms. Kendall Lee is the recipient of UGA's Georgia Impact Now (GAIN) Masters Fellowship and is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program working with Dr. Ali Missaoui. Her duties include research on fescue-endophytes interactions and development of genomic resources for marker assisted breeding in addition to participation in cultivar development of forage crops.

Kendall received her Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Animal Sciences from the University of Georgia in 2018.

Ms. Lee's work experience includes her participation as an undergraduate in a project with UGA Crop and Soil Sciences department (2015-2017) studying supplemental vitamin E form and how this might affect oxidative stress in exercising horses. Kendall presented this research at multiple university symposia and was listed as an author of the report.

As Kendall continues her time at UGA, please welcome her to our Institute; her work space is located at: CAGT Room 210. Her email address is: kendall.lee94@uga.edu

Richard Lu



Mr. Richard Lu is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program for 2018. He is working with Dr. Soraya Bertoli and Dr. Scott Jackson and his duties include phenotyping and genotyping *Arachis* populations derived from wild species and other general laboratory duties.

Mr. Lu received his Bachelor of Science in Biology from the Georgia Institute of Technology in December of 2016.

Richard's work experience includes his role as a lab technician in Georgia Tech's Snell Laboratory (2014-2016) where he performed independent research with rotifer and hypoxia which resulted in publication in 2017. He also has experience with maintaining and harvesting rotifer and algae cultures using various techniques.

Richard joins us at UGA from his home in Gwinnett County. Please welcome him to our Institute, his work space is located at: CAGT Room 248. His email address is: richardlu3@uga.edu

Sam McDonald



Mr. Sam McDonald is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Ph.D. program for 2018. He is working with Dr. Zenglu Li and his duties include phenotyping and QTL/marker discovery for the traits of interest and molecular breeding in soybeans.

Mr. McDonald received his Bachelor of Science in Plant Science from the University of Missouri in May of 2017.

Sam's experience includes working as a Research Specialist in the University of Missouri's soybean breeding program (2014-2018) under the direction of Dr. Andrew Scaboo where he was responsible for collecting phenotypic data across several locations in northern Missouri. Additionally, Sam has led teams in planting, weed management, harvest and seed packing. Sam has also completed two undergraduate internships with Pioneer Hi-Breed (2014, 2016).

Sam arrived at UGA this summer from Columbia, Missouri. Please welcome him to our Institute, his work space is located at: CAGT Room 202. His email address is: Samuel.McDonald@uga.edu.

Mark Miller



Mr. Mark Miller is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Ph.D. program for 2018. He is working with Dr. Zenglu Li and his duties include soybean breeding, genetics, QTL discovery and molecular breeding.

Mark received his Bachelor of Science in Molecular and Cellular Biology in 2017 from UC Berkley in Berkley, California where he was an undergraduate Regents' and Chancellor's Scholar.

Mr. Miller's previous work experience includes studying *Arabidopsis* at the USDA's Plant Gene Expression Center (2016-2017) where he gained experience in genotyping, RT-PCR, PCR, and RNA extraction.

He arrived at UGA this summer from Westlake Village, California. Please welcome Mark to our Institute; his work space is located at: CAGT Room 202. His email address is: Mark.Miller@uga.edu

Gary Orr



Mr. Gary Orr is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program for 2018. He is working with Dr. Wayne Parrott, and his duties include developing transgenic and genome edited tall fescue for various traits.

Gary received his Bachelor of Science degree in Genetics from the University of Georgia in May of 2016.

Mr. Orr's work experience includes positions as an undergraduate research assistant in UGA's Parrott Laboratory (2015-2016) and as a research technician in UGA's Parrott Laboratory (2016-2018).

Please welcome Gary to our Institute, his work space is located at: Center for Applied Genetic Technologies Room 102. His email address is: garyorr@uga.edu

Monica Prias Blanco



Ms. Monica Prias Blanco joined IPBGG last summer as a Research Assistant in the Master's program for 2018. She is working with Dr. Wayne Parrott and her duties include development and application of genome-editing technology for switchgrass.

Monica graduated with honors and received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Escuela Normal Superior de Ibague in Tolima Columbia in 2009.

Ms. Prias Blanco's work experience includes her role as coordinator in the molecular biology laboratory at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) where she worked in molecular characterization of transgenic plants including rice, cassava and bean and also was involved in the implementation of CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing system to edit the previously mentioned crops (2010-2018). During her eight years at CIAT, Monica participated in five publications and trained personnel from students to researchers. Ms. Prias Blanco has also completed three months of training in genome editing based on Talens at UC Davis's Department of Plant Sciences where she trained under the supervision of Dr. Anne Britt.

Monica joins us from her home in Columbia. Please welcome her to our Institute; her work space is located at: CAGT Room 141. Her email address is: MonicaAndrea.PriasBlanco@uga.edu

Gurjot Singh Sidhu



Mr. Gurjot Singh Sidhu is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program for 2018. He is working with Dr. Joann Conner and his duties include research on apomixis and embryo development in the laboratory, greenhouse, and field.

In 2018, Mr. Sidhu received his Bachelor of Science in Plant Breeding and Genetics with a minor in Biotechnology from Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) in Ludhiana, Punjab, India where he was the recipient of the Dr. GS Khush Merit Scholarship.

Singh's experience includes working in Dr. Johar Singh's Wheat Improvement Lab at PAU (2017) where he gained experience in various molecular biology techniques such as PCR, DNA isolation and gel electrophoresis. Also at PAU, Singh assisted with Ph.D. student research in the lab of molecular biologist Dr. Satinder Kaur (2017-2018).

Singh joins us at UGA from his home in Bathinda, Punjab India. Please welcome him to our Institute, his work space is located at: CAGT Room 214. His email address is: gurjotsingh@uga.edu

Raegan Wiggins



Ms. Reagan Wiggins is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Master's program for 2018. She is working with Dr. Peggy Ozias-Akins and Dr. Josh Clevenger and her duties include phenotyping a peanut population for resistance to post-harvest aflatoxin contamination and analysis of genetic factors underlying resistance. Raegan is also the recipient of the University of Georgia Impact Now (U-GAIN) Master's Fellows assistantship.

Raegan received her Bachelor of Science majoring in Biology from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia in 2018.

Ms. Wiggins' previous experience includes an internship in plant sciences at Walt Disney World (2017) where she worked in hydroponic greenhouses and a biotechnology laboratory. At Georgia Southern University (2017) Raegan worked in collaboration with a graduate student and participated in a transcriptomics analysis research project.

She arrived at UGA in August from her home in Coffee County, Georgia. Please welcome Raegan to our Institute; her work space is located at: CAGT Room 214. Her email address is: raegan.wiggins25@uga.edu



Hallie Wright

Ms. Hallie Wright is a Research Assistant in the PBGG Ph.D. program for 2018. She is working with Dr. Katrien Devos and her duties will include research on the genetics/genomics of finger millet and the fungus *Magnaporthe oryzae* which causes blast disease in finger millet.

Hallie received her Bachelor of Science in Plant Genetics, Breeding, and Biotechnology in 2018 with a minor in Communication from Purdue University in West Lafayette Indiana. Hallie also spent time studying abroad in both Australia and Ireland.

Ms. Wright's previous work experience includes several research positions – one at Purdue University (2015-2016) working with Dr. Cliff Weil to conduct assays to determine digestible protein levels across a sorghum diversity panel and two with Dow AgroSciences

where she was able to conduct her own research in crop development and protection (2016) as well as corn breeding (2017). Ms. Wright has also worked as a biochemistry teaching assistant at Purdue University.

She arrived at UGA from Greenfield, Indiana. Please welcome Hallie to our Institute; her work space is located at: Miller Plant Sciences, Room 4203. Her email address is: Hallie.Wright@uga.edu