



INSTITUTE OF  
**PLANT BREEDING,  
GENETICS & GENOMICS**  
at UGA.

**IPBGG EXTENDS A HEARTY WELCOME TO THE  
FOLLOWING EIGHT NEW STUDENTS FOR FALL  
SEMESTER 2016:**



**Matthew Johnson**

Mr. Johnson received an IPBGG Research Assistantship for 2016-2017, in the Ph.D. program. He is working with Dr. Jason Wallace, and his duties include using genomics, bioinformatics, and applied statistics to identify important regions in crop genomes that can be used to breed better varieties.

Matthew received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural and Environmental Plant Sciences from California Polytechnic State University in 2016.

His previous work experience includes positions as an agricultural research assistant at Cal Poly, 2011 - 2016, as well as concurrently providing tutoring services in 2015.

Matthew arrived at UGA from California in August to begin his assistantship at the Institute. Please welcome

him, he works in CAGT, room 118. His email address is: [msj80897@uga.edu](mailto:msj80897@uga.edu).



## Chandler Maddox

Ms. Maddox received an IPBGG Research Assistantship for 2016-2017, in the master's program. She is working with Dr. Peggy Ozias-Akins, and her duties include research related to peanut breeding and genetics.

Chandler received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Berry College in 2016.

Her previous work experience includes positions as a faculty office assistant and lifeguard at Berry College, 2013-2014. Additionally, she served as a research assistant in the Biology Department at Berry, 2014-2015.

Chandler arrived at UGA from North Georgia in August to begin her assistantship at IPBGG. Please welcome Chandler, she works in CAGT, room 214. Her email address is: [chandler.maddox@uga.edu](mailto:chandler.maddox@uga.edu).



## William Louis Miles

Mr. Miles received an IPBGG Research Assistantship for 2016-2017, in the master's program. He is working with Drs. Paul Raymer and Wayne Parrott. His duties include research in Dr. Parrott's Molecular Biology Lab and Dr. Raymer's Breeding and Genetics Lab.

Louis received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from Clemson University in 2013.

His previous work experience includes positions as a biological sciences technician at the USDA Agricultural Research Station Vegetable Lab in Charleston, SC, 2011-2015. He also served as a volunteer lab technician at Clemson University in 2013.

Louis arrived at UGA from Charleston in June and served as a laboratory assistant in Dr. Parrott's lab. He began his assistantship this fall. Please welcome Louis, he works in CAGT, room 141. His email address is: [wlm74184@uga.edu](mailto:wlm74184@uga.edu).



## Lucky Paudel

Mr. Paudel received a Fulbright Fellowship to support his studies at UGA, 2016-2017. He is a student in the IPBGG master's program working with Dr. Cecilia McGregor. His duties include research related to the breeding, genetics and genomics of watermelon.

Lucky received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from Haryana Agricultural University in India in 2011.

His previous work experience includes: field coordinator, ECARDS-Nepal, 2011-2013; and district agricultural officer, Helen Keller International, 2013-2015.

He arrived from Nepal in August. Please welcome Lucky, his office is in Miller Plant Sciences, room 1102-B. His email address is: lp23710@uga.edu.



## Elizabeth Prenger

Ms. Prenger received a University of Georgia Graduate School Research Assistantship for 2016-2017. She is in the IPBGG master's program working with Dr. Zenglu Li, and her duties include research related to genetic improvement of seed composition in soybean.

Elizabeth received her Bachelor of Science in Plant Sciences from the University of Missouri in 2016.

Her previous work experience includes: lab assistant, University of Missouri Nematology Lab, 2013-2014; technical assistant, University of Missouri Soybean Breeding Program, 2014-2015; and production research intern, Monsanto, 2015.

Elizabeth arrived at UGA from Missouri in August. Please welcome her, her office is in CAGT, room 202. Her email address is: elizabeth.prenger25@uga.edu.





## Connor Ryan

Mr. Ryan received an IPBGG Research Assistantship for 2016-2017, in the master's program. He is working with Dr. Donglin Zhang and his duties include shade woody plant breeding and production.

Connor received a Bachelor of Science dual degree in Integrative Biology and Horticulture at Auburn University in 2015.

His previous work experience includes a position as an undergraduate Research Fellow; and assistant position in the Department of Horticulture, Auburn University, 2014-2015. Additionally, Connor held several internship positions at: Mississippi Naval Research Lab, MSU Crosby Arboretum, and North Carolina State University's Mountain Crop

Improvement Lab. Please welcome Connor, his office is in Miller Plant Sciences, room 1102-B. His email address is: [connor.ryan@uga.edu](mailto:connor.ryan@uga.edu).



## Suraj Sapkota

Mr. Sapkota received an IPBGG Research Assistantship for 2016-2017, in the Ph.D. program. He is working with Dr. Mohamed Mergoum, and his duties include conducting research on the genetics of major wheat diseases.

Suraj received a Master of Science degree from North Dakota State University in 2015. His major was in Plant Pathology and his thesis was titled: Identification and Genomic Mapping of Resistance to Bacterial Leaf Streak in Wheat. He received a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Tribhuvan University, Nepal, in 2010.

Suraj's previous professional experience includes positions as a research assistant for: Nepal Agricultural Research Council, 2011-2012; North Dakota State University, 2012-2015; and University of Manitoba, 2015. Suraj began his studies at UGA in the Crop and Soil Sciences Department, spring semester 2016, and transferred to the Institute this past summer. Please welcome Suraj, his work space is located in CAGT, room 214. His email address is: [ssapkota@uga.edu](mailto:ssapkota@uga.edu).



## Shreya Shanbhag

Ms. Shanbhag is a student in the IPBGG master's program working with Dr. Peng Chee for 2016-2017. Her duties include research related to cotton improvement on plant host resistance.

Shreya received a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Biotechnology Engineering from the University of Mumbai, 2015.

Shreya was very active in IEEE (a technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology) through the Thadomal Shahani Engineering College. Additionally, Shreya co-founded and served as editor of a website that provided fellow students with resources and news regarding biotechnology. She was also very active in community service work.

Shreya arrived at UGA from Mumbai in August. Please welcome her, her office is in CAGT, room 215. Her email address is: [shreya2011@uga.edu](mailto:shreya2011@uga.edu).