



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 FALL SEMESTER 2017:**



Thomas Gottilla

Mr. Thomas Gottilla is a student in the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program sponsored by the Honor's Program in conjunction with the Graduate School for 2017. He is working with Dr. Katrien Devos, and his duties include conducting mapping of salt tolerance in seashore paspalum.

Thomas is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Biotechnology with a minor in Russian. He is due to graduate Spring 2018. Concurrently he is a student in the IPBGG Master's program.

Mr. Gottilla worked in the UGA Department of Plant Pathology as an undergraduate researcher in the Brewer Lab (2015-2017). He held an internship with Land O' Lakes in Vincent, Iowa this past summer.

Please welcome Thomas to our Institute, his work space is located in the MPS building. His email address is: gottilla@uga.edu.



Lynsey Kovar

Ms. Lynsey Kovar is a recipient of UGA's GA Research Education Award Traineeship (GREAT) Doctoral Fellows assistantship. She is in the IPBGG Ph.D. program doing rotations with Drs. Devos, van der Knaap and Wallace for Fall semester.

Ms. Kovar received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from New Mexico State University in 2017.

Lynsey's previous work experience includes an internship in the Eveland Lab at Danforth Science Center in St. Louis, and a position as an undergraduate research assistant in the Bailey Lab at New Mexico State University (2015-2017), where she continued to work over the summer.

She arrived at UGA from Albuquerque in early August. Please welcome Lynsey to our Institute, her work space is located at: CAGT Rm 124. Her email address is: lkovar@uga.edu.



Carmen Kraus

Ms. Carmen Kraus is a Research Assistant in the IPBGG Master's program for 2017. She is working with Dr. Esther van der Knaap. Her duties include research related to the genetic control of tomato fruit morphology, and the function of genes and proteins in this process.

Carmen received her Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology from the University of Georgia in 2015.

Ms. Kraus's work experience includes positions as a research assistant in the Odum School of Ecology (2013-2015) and as a curatorial assistant for the Georgia Herbarium (2014-2017) at UGA.

Carmen joined the IPBGG program Summer 2017 in Dr. van der Knapp's lab. Please welcome her to our Institute, her work space is located at: CAGT, room 124. Her email address is: ckraus@uga.edu.



Ethan Menke

Mr. Ethan Menke is a Research Assistant in the IPBGG Ph.D. program for 2017. He is working with Dr. Zenglu Li, and his duties include research related to soybean breeding, genetics and genomics, conducting phenotyping and genotyping for gene/QTL discovery and molecular breeding for traits of interest.

Ethan received his Master of Science degree in Agronomy from Kansas State University in 2017. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Newman University in 2014.

Mr. Menke's work experience includes positions as a mechanical assistant for Berry Tractor and Equipment in Wichita, KS (2011-2014) and as a graduate research assistant at Kansas State University (2015-2017).

Ethan arrived at UGA in August from Kansas. Please welcome him to our Institute, his work space is located at: CAGT, room 202. His email address is: Ethan.Menke@uga.edu.



Alexandra Ostezan

Ms. Alexandra Ostezan is a recipient of UGA's GA Research Education Award Traineeship (GREAT) Doctoral Fellows assistantship. She is in the IPBGG Ph.D. program for 2017 working with Dr. Esther van der Knaap. Her duties include the genetic characterizations of tomato fruit size.

Alexandra received her Bachelor of Science in Crop Science from the University of Illinois in 2017.

Ms. Ostezan's previous work experience includes internships with Dow AgroSciences in Corn Breeding and Plant Pathology and positions as an undergraduate research assistant at the University of Illinois (2014-2017). This past summer Alexandra worked with Dr. Juvik's anthocyanin corn lab project at the University of Illinois where she trained new staff and assisted in planting.

She arrived at UGA in August from Illinois. Please welcome Alexandra to our Institute, her work space is located at: CAGT Rm 124. Her email address is: Alexandra.Ostezan@uga.edu.



Manoj Sapkota

Mr. Manoj Sapkota is a Research Assistant in the IPBGG Ph.D. program for 2017. He is working with Dr. Esther van der Knaap, and his duties include the genomic characterization of tomato accessions, development of populations, fine mapping and phenotyping.

Mr. Sapkota received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from Tribhuvan University in 2016.

Manoj's work experience includes positions as a research assistant for the Nepal Agriculture Research Council (2016) and as a research technician for the International Maize and Wheat Research Center (CIMMYT) (2016-2017).

Manoj arrived at UGA in late July from Nepal. Please welcome him to our Institute, his work space is located at: CAGT, room 124.

His email address is: Manoj.Sapkota@uga.edu.