



Western Society of Weed Science Newsletter

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IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Report

Tucson Meeting Update

Diversity and Inclusion
Committee Request

Local Arrangements
Committee Report

Student Liaison Report

Rita Beard Endowment
Student Scholarship

WSWS Growing the Future of
Weed Science Scholarship

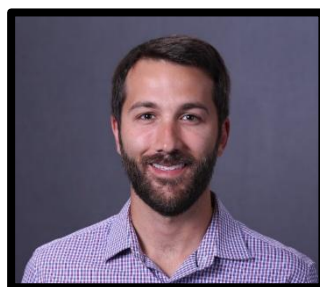
Student Paper and Poster
Contest Information

Membership Renewal Form

Sidebar highlights:

- [Contact Us](#)
- [Officers & Executive Committees](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Calendar of Events](#)

President's Report



Depending where in the U.S. you are located, leaves are likely somewhere on the spectrum of starting to change to completely dropped, or maybe you don't have trees! This season of change is always exciting as the last bit of field data is coming in, which (for me) means a transition to feverishly summarizing data in preparation for key decisions or presentations at

upcoming meetings.

One of my favorite things about WSWS is the locations we can access for the annual meeting, and the 2026 meeting will be no exception. By the time March comes, many of us will be starting to crave better weather, and the meeting in Tucson Arizona will be a welcome relief from the cold. As you will see throughout the newsletter, preparation for the 2026 meeting is in full swing. I know the program committee has been active in developing plans for the annual meeting and I'm hopeful it will be a very engaging meeting. Please pay close attention to the call for papers as submission details will look different than prior years.

An important reminder: the WSWS elections are open until December 1, 2025, please be sure to participate in this important process that shapes the future of our society. The nominations committee has put together an outstanding slate of candidates. The web page for casting votes can be found here [2026 Election – Western Society of Weed Science](#).

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee is excited to offer the **Growing the Future of Weed Science Scholarship** opportunity to support meeting attendance for undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds. This scholarship will award a total of \$1,000 to one undergraduate student to enable attendance at the 2026 annual meeting. The deadline for application is November 28, 2025, and further details can be found here: [Diversity and Inclusion – Western Society of Weed Science](#).

If you have questions related to the upcoming meeting or other inquiries, feel free to contact me, Nevin Lawrence, or Eric Gustafson.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Carl Coburn, WSWS President

WSWS Annual Meeting March 2 – 5, 2026, Tucson, Arizona

Annual Meeting Update

The Western Society of Weed Science is welcoming title submissions for the 2026 Meeting in Tucson, AZ. The online title submission is open and closes December 1, 2025. Abstracts are due February 12, 2026. The title submission site is available through a link on the “Annual Meeting” page Annual Meeting 2026 – [Western Society of Weed Science](#) or at: <https://event.fourwaves.com/wsws/pages>. WSWs, along with other WSSA societies, are using Fourwaves, for both submission and registration at the meeting. If you have questions regarding the registration process, please reach out to me directly (nlawrence2@unl.edu).

To submit titles, you will need to enter your information, the title, type of presentation, which section you want to present in, if you are a student and if you wish to be in the competition, and the name and affiliations of coauthors. You will also be required to enter an abstract place holder. You do not need to enter a full abstract, or even a partial abstract. You can just enter “place holder” or any other word as the abstract and then enter in the full abstract before February 12th. There is also the option to volunteer as a student poster or paper judge at the time of submission.

When registering, we ask you indicate if you are wanting to participate in Student Night Out, which social events you may be attending, and if you have any dietary restrictions. We also have a feature that will allow you to pay for multiple attendees at the same time. Those attendees will also need to register independently but will not need to pay at the time of registration.

Our keynote speaker for the general session is Dr. Christopher R. Caseldine, Curator of Collections at the Arizona State University Center for Archaeology and Society Repository who will give an address on the history and agricultural practices of the Hohokam people. The WSWs Diversity & Inclusion Committee will be hosting their second annual social hour, with all WSWs Meeting attendees invited to attend. One symposium will be included in the 2026 Annual Meeting, *The Pacific Northwest Herbicide Resistance Initiative: An Invitation to Collaborate*, organized by Olivia Landau, Albert Adjewor, and Nick Bergmann.

A quick note on hotel reservations for the annual meeting. MLB spring training will be taking place during the time of the annual meeting. We have been told that hotel reservations in Tucson are extremely limited. If you do not book a hotel at the conference location by February 1, it may be very difficult to find any hotel in the area.

Please consider nominating deserving colleagues for awards, it’s always our goal to have a full slate of deserving nominations for every category.

Nevin Lawrence - President-Elect/Program Chair

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Awards, Site Selection

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**Program, Poster, Publications,
Student Paper Judging, Local
Arrangements**

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Sustaining Members,
Nominations**

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Legislative

Diversity & Inclusion Committee Request

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Public Relations

Education & Regulatory Section Chair-Elect

Elizabeth Mosqueda
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elizabeth.mosqueda@madercollege.edu

Dear esteemed colleague,

I hope this message finds you well. On behalf of the Western Society of Weed Science's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, I am reaching out to ask for your support in establishing a scholarship fund that will enable undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds to attend our annual meeting.

This initiative was created from the voices of our members, who have emphasized the need for a more inclusive, representative, and vibrant future for weed science. The ***Growing the Future of Weed Science Scholarship*** will help cover travel, registration, and lodging costs—removing financial barriers that too often prevent talented students from accessing the transformative professional experiences of our annual meeting.

Beyond financial support, this scholarship is a vital opportunity to introduce young scientists—many of whom may not yet be aware of our field or our society—to the exciting and important work we do. In doing so, we aim to not only increase participation but also inspire new talent and ideas, serving to revitalize our membership and ensure the long-term health of the WSSWS.

We aim to raise a total of \$2,000. Donate now and a generous sponsor will match all donations of up to \$100 until the goal of \$1,000 is met.

Your donation will make a direct and lasting impact by supporting the next generation of weed scientists and ensuring our society continues to reflect the diverse world we serve.

If you'd like to learn more about the impact of your support, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you for considering this important opportunity to invest in a more inclusive future for our field.

DONATE HERE: <https://wsweedscience.org/diversity-and-inclusion/>

Scroll to the bottom of the above website for application details.

Warm regards,
Lisa Jones, Chair
WSSWS Diversity & Inclusion Committee
lisajones@uidaho.edu

Local Arrangement Committee Report

There is no place better to be than in Arizona in the spring for the 2026 WSWs annual meeting from March 2 to 5 in Tucson. Marriott University Park is located adjacent to the University of Arizona campus at 880 East Second Street, Tucson, AZ 85719. See the annual meeting website and its links for making hotel reservations. Tucson International Airport is 20 minutes away and rideshares are readily available. Tucson Stagecoach Shuttle rides for about \$25 (to zip code 85719) can be pre-arranged by calling 520-889-1000 or online at <https://tucskoach.com>. For those wanting to explore more of Arizona, there are more flights into Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport or also into Mesa Gateway Airport that are about a 1-½ and 2 hours drives, respectively, through the colorful desert with blooming spring wildflowers, trees, and cactus.

Make plans to come in early or stay longer and spend the weekends exploring the desert around Tucson. To get a flavor of desert wildlife and flora, plan a visit and stroll through the **Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum**, that is just a few miles directly west of the hotel. The **Pima Air and Space Museum** has 80 acres of outdoor displays and hangars full of commercial and military aircraft parked adjacent to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. Many other sites worthy of visits are Sabino Canyon Recreation area, Saguaro National Park (east and west districts), Madera Canyon renown for birdwatching is less than 1 hour south of Tucson and **Kartchner Caverns** also within an hour drive is east of Tucson.

A short jaunt onto the University of Arizona campus offers opportunities to visit the **mirror lab**, **campus arboretum**, and the **planetarium**. If there are enough interested people to see any of the campus facilities, let me know and I can try to arrange a group tour. One thing that is nearly impossible is to arrange any special comp tee times on choice golf courses during our spring season. Advance tee times should be arranged in advance directly with the course.

For dinners and planning the traditional student night out, Tucson is a UNESCO City of Gastronomy so finding top-notch Mexican restaurants and steakhouses or anything in-between are preferences to typical chain eateries. (<https://tucsonfoodie.com> or <https://www.yelp.com>)

We look forward to having you attend and participate in what should be a productive and memorable WSWs annual meeting in Tucson next March.

Kai Umeda
Local Arrangements Chair
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Publications

WSWS ONLINE EDUCATION

WSWS Publications

WSSA Journals Website Online

2025 Proceedings

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Canadian Weed Science
Society Annual Meeting**
Nov. 2 – 7, 2025
Gatineau, Quebec
www.weedscience.ca

**North Central Weed Science
Society Annual Meeting**
Dec. 15 – 18, 2025
Grand Rapids, Michigan
www.ncwss.org

**Northeastern Weed Science
Society Annual Meeting**
Jan. 5 - 9, 2026
Hershey, Pennsylvania
www.newss.org

**Southern Weed Science
Society Annual Meeting**
Jan. 26 - 29, 2026
Nashville, Tennessee
www.swss.ws

**Weed Science Society of
America Annual Meeting**
Feb. 9 – 27, 2025
Raleigh, North Carolina
www.wssa.net

**Western Society of Weed
Science Annual Meeting**
Mar. 2 – 5, 2026
Tucson, Arizona
www.wsweedscience.org

**Aquatic Plant Management
Society Annual Meeting**
Jul. 13 - 16, 2025
Phoenix, Arizona
www.apms.org

Student Liaison Report – Weston Maughan

Recently, a few of the WSWs committees have reached out to us, asking about student participants. We ask students to look for opportunities to get involved with the committees. These committees are a fantastic way to network with members of both academia and industry, as well as build your resume. These committees are willing your work around your schedules. If you would like to be a part a committee, please reach out to me, or any member of the Board of Directors and we will be more than happy to connect you with the committee chairs.

Again, we wish everyone a successful semester, and we encourage all students to submit titles for posters and oral presentation in the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Weston Maughan, Student Liaison
peter.maughan@wsu.edu

Ola Adeyemi, Student Chair-elect
olanrewaju.adeyemi@usu.edu

Rita Beard Endowment Student Scholarship

The WSWs Rita Beard Endowment Foundation is pleased to offer travel support to students or early career professionals that are studying/working in the area of invasive species management on natural lands/waters of the United States. Scholarships will be awarded to the most outstanding undergraduate or graduate student(s) and/or young professional(s) that complete the application requirements. The scholarships are to be used to defray the cost of attending one of the following professional meetings:

- *Western Society of Weed Science*
- *Western Aquatic Plant Management Society*
- *North American Invasive Species Management Association*
- *Society of Range Management*

Applications are due at 5:00 PM (PT) on **November 28**. Application information can be found here:

<https://wsweedscience.org/student-resources/>

WSWS Growing the Future of Weed Science Scholarship

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee of the Western Society of Weed Science is pleased to offer the Growing the Future of Weed Science Scholarship to support undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds to attend our annual meeting. The goal is to foster a more inclusive and representative future for the weed science discipline by ensuring our society continues to reflect the diverse world we serve.

A total of \$1,000 will be awarded to one outstanding undergraduate student assisting with research relevant to weed science. The scholarship money must be used on expenses related to attending the WSWS annual meeting (e.g., travel, lodging, registration).

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Applicant must be enrolled at the time of the WSWS annual meeting (March) as an undergraduate student at an accredited college or university in the western region (see <https://wsweedscience.org/aboutus/> for a list of states and provinces). Those pursuing Associate's degrees are encouraged to apply.
2. Applicant must be from a historically underrepresented group of the North American weed science community.
3. Applicant must have a faculty sponsor who provides one of the letters of support.
4. Applicant must present a paper or poster and participate in the undergraduate student competition at the WSWS annual meeting in March.

Application Package:

1. Completed and signed Application Form (found at the end of this document).
2. One-page cover letter describing the applicant's interest and efforts in promoting diversity and inclusion and what future contributions the applicant hopes to make to the field of weed science, such as career goals.
3. Resume highlighting recent relevant experience through schooling, work and/or internships; awards, honors, publications, leadership positions, community activities.
4. Two letters of support, one of which must be from the student's faculty sponsor. Recommenders should be familiar with the applicant's abilities, interests, and career goals.
5. University academic transcripts (unofficial copy is acceptable).

Selection Criteria:

Applicants will be evaluated by the members of the D&I Committee. Evaluations will be based on:

1. Academic record and scholarly achievements.
2. Alignment with the mission statement of WSWS Diversity and Inclusion (<https://wsweedscience.org/diversity-and-inclusion/>) including demonstrated efforts to promote diversity and inclusion.
3. Potential contributions to the future of weed science.
4. Participation in extracurricular pursuits contributing to the advancement of weed science, natural resource management, or education/mentoring.

Those who have never attended the WSWS annual meeting will be prioritized.

Additional Requirements:

In addition to presenting their research at the annual meeting, recipients must volunteer approximately 4 hours assisting with various tasks at the meeting.

How to Apply:

Applications must be submitted electronically. The following documents (application form, cover letter, resume, support letters, and academic transcripts) should be compiled into a single PDF file (preferred) or combined into a single zip file and sent to the D&I Committee Chair, Lisa Jones (lisajones@uidaho.edu). Application submission deadline is 5:00 PM (PDST) November 14, 2025. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Western Society of Weed Science

Growing the Future of Weed Science

Scholarship Application Form

INSTRUCTIONS: This application is to be completed by the student-applicant. Applications must be submitted electronically. All documents (application form, cover letter, resume, support letters, and academic transcripts) should be compiled into a single PDF file (preferred) or combined into a single zip file and sent to the D&I Committee Chair, Lisa Jones (lisajones@uidaho.edu). Application submission deadline is 5:00 PM (PDST) November 14, 2025. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Full name:

Full address:

Telephone:

Email:

School:

Department:

Degree sought:

Year in School:

Anticipated date of degree completion:

Faculty sponsor:

The information provided with this application is true and accurate.

Signature _____

Date _____

Student Paper and Poster Contest Information

Judit Barroso, Chair

Committee Members: Jake Courkamp (Past Chair), Jason Adams, and Wes Maughan (Student Representative)

The WSWS Student Paper and Poster Contest provides an excellent opportunity for students to improve their presentation skills and increase visibility within the society. Winners of each division also receive a plaque and cash award to honor their achievement.

- All graduate students are encouraged to enter one paper and/or one poster in the contest.
- Undergraduate students may enter in the poster contest and will be judged in a separate section. All undergraduate students who intend to participate must notify the committee chair.
- If students entering the contest do not wish to be judged (i.e. considered for awards) but would like to receive feedback on their presentations, please notify the committee chair.
- Contest rules and scoring criteria can be found on the Student Resources webpage (<https://wsweedscience.org/student-resources/>).

Invitation to Serve as a Judge

Our committee seeks non-student volunteers to participate as judges for the paper and poster competition. Volunteer judges are critical to the function and success of the student contest! Serving as a judge is an opportunity to invest in new and upcoming scientists in our society. Constructive feedback from judges provides students an opportunity to improve their presentation skills and excel in their professional career.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email the committee chair (judit.barroso@oregonstate.edu). Your help is greatly appreciated; thank you to those who have served as judges in the past and thank you for considering becoming a judge at the 2026 meeting!

Attention to Advisors and Students

The WSWS Student Paper and Poster Contest committee will be enforcing the policies below. The committee is focused on making the contest a fair, transparent, and enjoyable experience for all student participants.

- Information presented in the WSWS Student Paper and Poster Contest must be original and unique. If a topic has been used by the author in another presentation at a different weed science society meeting, additional data must be included to constitute a unique presentation.
- Oral and poster presentations entered for competition by the same person should be substantively different from each other (for example, not just changing the title or simply adding more data to the poster). There should be no overlap between the data presented in the poster and oral format by the author (if entered in a competition).
- Students attending institutions in states that are not WSWS members may participate in the student contest and are eligible for awards.
- All students entering the contest are required to submit an abstract not to exceed 250 words (word count in Microsoft Word). All abstracts exceeding 250 words will be docked points accordingly.

For detailed procedures of the student contest please refer to the Student Paper Judging Committee section of the Operating Procedures Guide, which can be found in the WSWS website under the Governance section (<https://wsweedscience.org/governance/>).

Please contact the committee chair if there are additional questions.

Judit Barroso, Student Paper and Poster Judging Committee Chair
email: judit.barroso@oregonstate.edu

2025 Membership Renewal Form

To pay by credit card, please login to your account at www.wsweedsociety.org

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING BUT WANT TO REMAIN A MEMBER, FILL IN THE INFORMATION BELOW AND SEND \$30.00 FOR DUES TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED.

Last name	First name	Affiliation	
Mailing address	City	State	Zip code
Phone # w/area code	e-mail address		

Classification: Student ___ University ___ Federal Agency ___ State Agency ___
Private Industry (manufacturing and sales) ___ Private Industry (consulting) ___
Unemployed ___ Retired ___ other (specify) _____

Send to: WSWS/IMI,
12110 Pecos St., Ste 220,
Westminster, CO 80234

Questions? info@wsweedsociety.org or (303) 327-8016

Western Society of Weed Science Objectives

- ❖ To foster and encourage education and research in weed science.
- ❖ To foster cooperation among state, federal and private agencies in matters of weed science.
- ❖ To aid and support commercial, private and public agencies in the solution of weed problems.
- ❖ To support legislation governing weed control programs and weed research and education programs.
- ❖ To support the Weed Science Society of America and foster state and regional organizations and agencies interested in weed control.