



College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Inaugural Research Awards

Reception & Dinner

April 16, 2024



Special Collections Library
300 S. Hull Street, Athens, GA 30605

The Inaugural Research Awards Reception and Dinner are made possible through private charitable support from the [D.W. Brooks Agricultural Fund](#).

CAES.UGA.EDU



4:00 **Registration and Welcome Reception**
2nd Floor Atrium

4:25 **Announce Award Presentation**
Room 271 - Main Auditorium
No food or drinks allowed

4:30 **Opening Statement and Introduction**

Harshavardhan Thippareddi
Associate Dean for Research

Nick T. Place
Dean and Director

4:45 **Presentation of Awards**

E. Broadus Browne 2023 Award Winners

FABricate Entrepreneurial Initiative

Regional/National/International Awards

Plant Licensing Innovation Awards

Large Grant Leadership Awards
\$500K to \$1M Research Awards

Large Grant Leadership Awards
\$1M to \$3M Research Awards

Large Grand Leadership Awards
\$3M to \$5M

Large Grant Leadership Awards
\$5M or Higher

AAAS Fellowship Awards

6:00 **Conclusion and Final Announcements**

Harshavardhan Thippareddi
Associate Dean for Research

Dinner **Room 285**



Dr. Edmund Broadus Browne



Office of Research

College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

E. Broadus Browne Research Awards *for Outstanding Graduate Research*

The E. Broadus Browne Research Awards for Outstanding Graduate Student Research are given in recognition of Director Edmund Broadus Browne's distinguished service to the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station (GAES). The award is presented to outstanding master's and doctorate students in the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences based on both their research creativity and effective communication. All award recipients received an award certificate as well as monetary awards. First place award winners were provided funding to a discipline-related conference or annual meeting of their choice.

Browne's career at the University of Georgia (UGA) started in 1947 with an assistant professorship in genetics and plant breeding. In 1951, he became the first director of the College Station at Athens. He served as director of the Coastal Plain Experiment Station in Tifton from 1973 to 1981. Browne then returned to Athens to serve as director of the Experiment Station System. He retired in 1984 and passed away in 1987.



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE
And view previous recipients

E. Broadus Browne Research Awards

2023 Winners

Ph.D. First Place

Lauren Vaccarro

Department of Poultry Science
Advisor: Dr. Laura Ellestad

“Effects of thyroid hormones on insulin-like growth factor binding protein expression in avian muscle cells.”

Ph.D. Second Place **Nathaniel Burner**

IPBGG
Major Prof.: Dr. Zenglu Li

“Developing and Deploying a UAS-based Phenotyping Pipeline for Maturity to Support Soybean Breeding.”

M.S. First Place

Stephanie Botton

IPBGG
Major Prof.: Dr. Peggy Ozias-Akins

“Characterization of the Arachis cardenasii Introgression in a Peanut, Arachis hypogaea, Population.”

M.S. Second Place

Laxmi Pandey

Department of Plant Pathology
Co-Advisors: Dr. Bob Kemeraït and
Dr. Marin Talbot Bewer

“Integration of Novel Tools for Management of Pre-harvest and Post-harvest Aflatoxin Contamination in Peanut.”

FABricate Entrepreneurial Initiative

Second Place

Derek Bullard

Department of Horticulture
Victory Garden Industries

FABricate is hosted by CAES in partnership with the UGA Entrepreneurship program.

Regional, National and International Awards

Best Economics Article in Food Safety and Human Nutrition

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Food Safety and Nutrition Section

Chen Zen, Professor

AAE and GA Athletic Association Professor in Food Choice, Obesity and Health

Best Paper Award

Research on World Agricultural Economy

Gopinath Musinamy, Professor

Professor, AAE and Distinguished Professor of Ag Marketing

Distinguished Research Fellow

Eastern Communication Association

Jennifer Waldeck

Professor and Department Head, ALEC

Honorary Member Award

Entomological Society of America

Kris Braman

Professor and Department Head, Department of Entomology

IPM Communicator and IPM Educator Awards

Integrated Pest Management

Elmer Gray

Research Professional, Department of Entomology

Career Achievement Award

International Congress of Entomology Council

Michael Strand

Professor and H.M. Pulliam Chair, Department of Entomology

Agricultural Research Innovation Award of Excellence

agInnovation South

Michael Strand

Professor and H.M. Pulliam Chair, Department of Entomology

Regional, National and International Awards

Integrated Pest Management Team Award

Entomological Society of America

Ashfaq Sial

Professor of Entomology

Multi-disciplinary Presidential Seed Grant

Ashfaq Sial

Professor of Entomology

Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticultural Entomology

Entomological Society of America Southeastern Branch

Ashfaq Sial

Professor of Entomology

Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticulture

Entomological Society of America Southeastern Branch

Shimat Joseph

Associate Professor of Entomology

Friends of IPM Hall of Fame

Integrated Pest Management

Brian Forschler

Professor of Entomology

Outstanding Graduate Educator Award

American Society for Horticultural Science

Cecilia McGregor

Professor of Horticulture

Outstanding Researcher Award

American Society for Horticultural Science

Marc van Iersel (posthumously)

Professor of Horticulture

Regional, National and International Awards

Forty Under 40

Greenhouse Product News

Ping Yu

Assistant Professor of Horticulture

Forty Under 40

Fruit and Vegetable News

Rachel Itle

Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Horticulture

Fellow of the American Society of Plant Biologists

The American Society of Plant Biologists

Wayne Parrott

*Distinguished Research Professor of Crop and Soil Science and
Director, Institute of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Genomics*

Non-Tenure Track Faculty Research Excellence Award

UGA Office of Research

Soraya Bertoli

Senior Research Scientist, Department of Plant Pathology

Arm & Hammer Animal and Food Production Food Safety Award

Poultry Science Association

Harshavardhan Thippareddi

Associate Dean for Research, John Bekkers Professor in Poultry

American Egg Board Research Award

Poultry Science Association

Ramesh Selvaraj

Professor of Poultry Science

Broiler Research Award

National Chicken Council

Woo Kyun Kim

Professor of Poultry Science

Plant Licensing Innovation Awards

Michael Toews, Co-PI Shaohui Wu

Utility IP Type: “A new virulent strain of the entomopathogenic fungus, *Isaria javanica*”

Scott Nesmith

Plant Patents: *Cupressus arizonica* var. *glabra* ‘RutCup1’ (Guardian Indigo) | RutHol5 (*Ilex* – Selection #7) “Ruby Colonnade” | RutHol6 (*Ilex* – Selection #13); RutHol7 (*Ilex* – Selection #14) | *Thuja* 2015-12; ‘RutThu#5’ (Tall Guy) | *Thuja* 2015-10 ‘RutThu#4’ (Planet Earth) | *Thuja* 2015-2 ‘RutThu#3’ (Lemon Burst) | *Thuja* 2015-9 ‘RutThu#2’ (Spring Meadow)

Matthew Dirr

Plant Patent: *Distylium* 26-18 ‘DISmd-26-18’ (Little Boxer)

Patrick Conner

Plant Patent: ‘Ga. 03-6-32’ Pecan (Kalos)

William Branch

Plant Variety Protection: With Tim Brenneman, Georgia-19HP Peanut | ‘Georgia-20VHO’ Peanut | ‘Georgia-Val/HO’ Peanut

Brian Schwartz

Plant Patent: With Wayne Hanna, Tif3D (‘12-TG-101’ bermudagrass)

Wayne Hanna

Trademark Application: Tift -TC26 Citrus Sinensis (‘Southern Frost’)

Mohamed Mergoum

Plant Variety Protection: With George Buntin, James Buck and Jerry Johnson, Wheat GA10268-17LE16 (GA17LE16) | With George Buntin, James Buck and Jerry Johnson, Wheat GA10407-17E8 (161617E82733) | With George Buntin, James Buck and Jerry Johnson, Wheat GA11656-17E11 (GA17E11)

Large Grant Leadership Awards

\$500,000 to \$1,000,000

Peggy Ozias-Akins, USDA NIFA

Evaluating and Preserving Induced Genetic Variation in Cultivated Peanut

Kerry Oliver, National Science Foundation

Collaborative research: Symbiosis as a fulcrum in a rapidly warming world

Prafulla Regmi (with Rami Dalloul), USDA NIFA

Role of stress-induced changes in gut microbiota and immune function on welfare (behavior and cognition) of laying hens

Lorena Nunes Lacerda (with Wesley Porter)

University of Florida Board of Trustees

Advancing Precision Variable Rate Irrigation Technology to Optimize Crop Water Productivity and Environmental Sustainability

Large Grant Leadership Awards

\$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000

C. Robin Buell, National Science Foundation

PlantSynBio: Construction of a plant chassis as a platform for biological discoveries and innovations

John Snider, Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research

Plant-based precision irrigation management for improved system-level sustainability

Kevin Vogel, National Science Foundation

CAREER: Experimental manipulation of host-microbe associations to reveal key features promoting symbiosis

Alexa Lamm, Iowa State University

Enhancing Trust in Pork Production and Products through Strengthening Communications, Research, and Training

Large Grant Leadership Awards

\$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000

Todd Applegate, US Department of Education
Enhancing Georgia's Poultry Science Industry and Workforce

Large Grant Leadership Awards

\$500,000,000 or Higher

David Hoisington
(with Jessica Marter-Kenyon and James Rhoads), USAID
Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Peanut

Jeff Jordan, USDA NIFA
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)

AAAS Fellows

American Association for the Advancement of Science

Roger Boerma, 1996
Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources

C. Robin Buell, 2008
Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources

Michael Strand, 2008
Biological Sciences

Peggy Ozias Akins, 2009
Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources

Allen Moore, 2012
Biological Sciences

Esther Van der Knaap, 2014
Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources

Katrien Devos, 2016
Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources

Wayne Parrott, 2017
Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources

A special thank you to our Ag Ambassadors

James Gibbs, Katie Gilk, Kayla Hodges, Michael Howard,
Carly Major and Madi Perdue





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