

**"2004 Graduate Student Competition"**  
**88th Annual Meeting**  
**August 11, 2004**  
**Scottsbluff, Nebraska USA**

The committee was composed of Kathleen Haynes (USDA/ARS), Christian Thill (University of Minnesota), Nora Olsen (University of Idaho), Hector Lozoya Saldana (PICTIPAPA), Susan "Rikki" Sterrett (Virginia Tech), and Asunta "Susie" Thompson (North Dakota State University).

We would like to thank the Platte Valley National Bank and Regional Radiation Oncology Care for paying the meeting registration fee for all the graduate students. Also, we thank the National Potato Council for supporting the awards for the competition.

Ten students participated in the competition this year. They represented the Physiology Section (3), Production and Management (1), and Breeding and Genetics (6). They were from five universities: Texas A&M University (3), North Carolina State University (1), the University of Minnesota (4), the University of Wisconsin (1), and Washington State University (1). There were eight M.S. and two Ph.D. students. They originally came from Bulgaria (1), Chile (1), Ecuador (1), Honduras (1), India (1), and the United States (5).

The winners were:

**1st place:** Angel Lara-Chavez, Breeding and Genetics, University of Minnesota, M.S., Honduras, 'Sample size for selection of cold chipping genotypes from haploid-species hybrids'.

**2nd place:** Claudia Granda, Physiology, Texas A&M University, M.S., Ecuador, 'A new approach to reduce the development of acrylamide in potato chips'.

**3rd place:** Sonia Bolvaran, Breeding and Genetics, University of Minnesota, M.S., Chile, 'Comparison between propagule sources for determining foliar resistance to late blight (*P. infestans*) in early breeding generations'.

**4th place:** Dimitre Mollov, Breeding and Genetics, University of Minnesota, M.S., Bulgaria, 'Incidence of PLRV induced tuber net necrosis in potato breeding populations'.

**5th place:** David Esplin, Breeding and Genetics, University of Minnesota, Ph.D., 'Genetic gain from early generation selection for cold chipping from 2x-2x, 2x-4x, 4x-2x, and 4x-4x crosses in potato'.

Respectfully submitted:  
Kathy Haynes, Chair