The members of the Graduate Student Competition Committee in 2010 were Kathy Haynes (USDA/ARS - Beltsville), Hector Lozoya Saldana (PICTIPAPPA, Mexico), Leslie Wanner (USDA/ARS-Beltsville), Samuel Essah (Colorado State University), Dennis Halterman (USDA/ARS-Madison, WI) and Paul Bethke (USDA-ARS, Madison, WI).

The awards were funded by the endowment funds of the PAA.

Twelve students participated in the competition:

A. 7 Ph.D. and 5 M.S. students. They made presentations in the following sections: Breeding and Genetics (1), Physiology (3), Plant Protection (3), Production and Management (4), and Utilization and Marketing (1).

B. They were from seven institutions: Brigham Young University (1), Colorado State University (1), Michigan State University (2), University of Idaho (2), University of Wisconsin – Madison (2), Virginia Tech (1) and Washington State University (3). The students came from four countries: Columbia (1), India (1), Kenya (1), and the USA (9).

The winners were:

1st place – Daniel Zommick, Ph.D., Washington State University, ‘Post harvest mottling of Premier Russet tubers may be a consequence of accelerated aging’.

2nd place – Elliott Toevs, M.S., University of Idaho, ‘Potato identity preservation: attitudes and logistics of reintroducing genetically modified potatoes to the market’.

3rd place – Joshua LeMonte, M.S., Brigham Young University, ‘Polymer coated urea in potatoes’.

4th place – Henry Castleberry, Ph.D., Colorado State University, ‘Development of an experimental design to study pressure flattening in potatoes’.

5th place – Christopher Hiles, M.S., Washington State University, ‘Defining in-season nitrogen needs to maximize profits from Alturas and Premier Russet’.

Kathy Haynes stepped down as chair of the committee at the end of the competition and Samuel Essah agreed to chair the committee beginning in 2011.

Submitted by Kathy Haynes, Chair
Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Committee