**General Information**

**Meeting Registration**

Thursday: 3:00 PM to 9:30 PM: Depot Registration Office

Friday: 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM: Depot Registration Office

**Meals**

All meals will be served buffet style in Midway West and Pegram areas; serving hours as listed in the program. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks are available at no charge during the beverage breaks.

**Talks and Posters**

All Talks will be presented in the Grand Ballroom.

Posters will be presented in Midway West, adjacent to where the meals will be held. Posters should be hung Thursday starting at 3 PM and stay up until Sunday morning, but must be removed by 9 AM on Sunday. During poster sessions, presenters of odd number posters are asked to stand by their posters 1:30-3:00 PM on Friday and 3:00-4:30 PM on Saturday. Presenters of even numbered posters should stand by their posters 3:00-4:30 PM on Friday and 1:30-3:00 PM on Saturday.

The maize meeting is a forum for presentation and discussion of unpublished material. **Photographing or recording of talks and posters is not allowed**.

**Health and Safety Policy**

The Maize Genetics Cooperation (MGC) is committed to the health and safety of all Cooperation members and

attendees of the Annual Maize Genetics Meeting (MGM). In keeping with the United States Centers for Disease

Control (CDC) guidelines, we have developed the following health & safety policy for the 2025 Maize Genetics

Meeting. <https://www.maizegdb.org/mgc/maizemeeting/2025/health.php>

We do not require masks to be worn during the meeting. However, please be sensitive to the immunocompromised and those practicing physical distancing.

If you are feeling unwell, please stay in your hotel room and contact Tricia Simmons.

Tricia’s Cell: 720-250-7033

If it is an emergency, call 911.

**Hospitality**

After the evening sessions on Thursday and Friday there will be informal socializing and poster gazing in the Midway, with refreshments and games provided from 9 PM - 11 PM and a cash bar until 12 AM. Additionally, from 9 PM - 10:30 PM we will have cornhole boards out for informal play on Thursday, and the initial rounds of a tournament on Friday. On Saturday evening there will be informal socializing in the Midway, with refreshments from 9 PM - Midnight, a cash bar from 11 PM - 12 AM, and the cornhole tournament finals from 10 PM - 12 AM.  
  
**Access to recorded sessions**

All talks and sessions will be recorded and made available to each meeting registrant. Registrants will receive an invitation email to view the recordings within 1-2 weeks after the meeting concludes from the Maize Genetics Cooperation (noreply-maize@iastate.edu). If you do not receive the email by March 31st, please check your junk/spam folder. If you still haven’t received it, or you are having issues with the site where the videos are hosted, please email [john.portwood@usda.gov](mailto:john.portwood@usda.gov).

**Steering Committee**

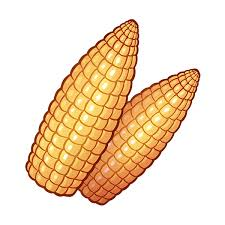
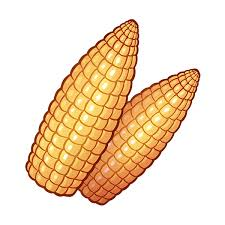
Please share your suggestions and comments about the meeting with the 2025 Steering Committee

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sherry Flint-Garcia, Chair (sherry.flint-garcia@usda.gov) Frank Hochholdinger, co-Chair (hochhold@uni-bonn.de) Ruben Rellan-Álvarez, Previous Chair (rrellan@ncsu.edu) Oyenike Adeyemo (aoadeyemo@unilag.edu.ng)  Hank Bass (bass@bio.fsu.edu) Keting Chen (kchen@iastate.edu)  Melissa Draves (madcfr@missouri.edu) Sarah Jensen (sarah.jensen@syngenta.com) Katie Murphy (kmurphy@danforthcenter.org)  Cinta Romay (mcr72@cornell.edu) Sylvia Morais de Sousa Tinoco (sylvia.sousa@embrapa.br) Graziana Taramino (graziana.taramino@bayer.com)  Feng Tian (ft55@cau.edu.cn)  Petra Wolters (petra.wolters@corteva.com) | Ex officio:  Carson Andorf - MaizeGDB  Erin Sparks - Treasurer  Darwin Campbell – Planning / Audio Visual Marty Sachs - Local Host  John Portwood - Logistics Coordinator  Meeting planning:  Tricia Simmons – Conference Direct Garrett Simmons – Conference Direct Frankie Palmer – Conference Direct |

**Acknowledgements**

Many thanks go to Carson Andorf, John Portwood, the MaizeGDB staff from the USDA-ARS, and Darwin Campbell (Iowa State University) for their tremendous efforts in organizing, assembling, and advertising the conference program. We also greatly thank Tricia Simmons, Garrett Simmons, Frankie Palmer, and their team at ConferenceDirect for helping to organize and implement the conference registration platform, handling meeting logistics with the venue staff, and dealing with many other issues. Special thanks are also extended to the Union Station staff for their help in organizing this conference. Thanks go to Sarah Jensen, Graziana Taramino, and Petra Wolters for their efforts in securing funding to offset meeting costs. Finally, many, many thanks go to the Steering Committee for organizing the 67th Maize Genetics Meeting **From the Maize Genetics Cooperation Board of Directors**

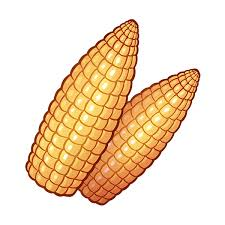
**Maize Genetics Awards:**

**The 2025 MGC Cooperator Awardees**   


**Don McCarty**, University of Florida

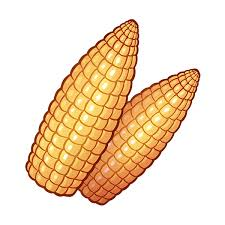
**Karen Koch**, University of Florida  
**Frank Hochholdinger**, University of Bonn

**Caroline Macron**, University of Bonn

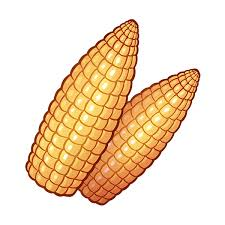


**The 2025 MGC Leadership Awardee**

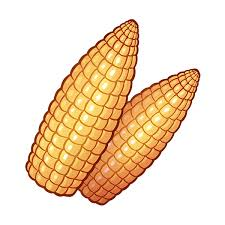
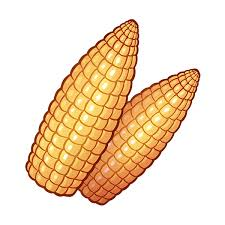
**Shawn Kaeppler**, University of Wisconsin

**The 2025 M. Rhoades Early Career Awardee**

**Erin Sparks,** University of Missouri

**The 2025 L. Stadler Mid-Career Awardee**

**Sherry Flint-Garcia**, USDA Agricultural Research Service

**The 2025 R. Emerson Lifetime Awardees**

**Brian Larkins,** University of Nebraska, passed away on January 19th.

**Zac Cande,** University of California Berkley, now retired

**The Barbara McClintock Prize for Plant Genetics and Genome Studies**

This award has been created to memorialize the unequalled contributions of Dr. McClintock through providing recognition to the most outstanding plant geneticists of the present era. In memory of the many contributions of Dr. McClintock, this Prize will be awarded each year to one or more of the most creative minds and productive scientists in the study of plant genome structure, function and evolution, including the analysis of gene regulation and epigenetics.



The **2025** Barbara McClintock Prize for Plant Genetics and Genome Studies has been awarded to Dr. Edward S. Buckler IV of United States Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) who will present a McClintock Prize Address on Friday, March 7, 8:20 pm CDT (See Page 26).

(See <https://maizegdb.org/mgc/awards/> for details about each award)

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**NSF-funded support for maize genetics:**

The National Science Foundation is supporting the 66th-68th Annual Maize Genetics

Meetings with a grant awarded on November 14th, 2023 (IOS-2329928). This conference

grant will support, Enhancing Institutional Access (EIA), and Disciplinary Breadth (DB) award programs. These programs broaden the participation of researchers with an interest in exploring research possibilities in maize genetics by providing funding to attend the meeting. These travel participants are paired with a team of mentors that included an early career scientist, an academic PI, and an industry or government scientist that engage with the awardees formally and informally before, during, and after the meeting. Throughout the meeting participants receive professional development training, and opportunities to engage directly with leaders in the field through organized meals with invited speakers. These experiences are vital catalysts for the careers of aspiring student and postdoc trainees. We appreciate the support from the National Science Foundation for this initiative and are excited about the potential for the grant to substantially advance and transform our community.

**The 2025 Attendance/Travel Awards Program**

The maize community offers several attendance and travel awards to encourage attendance at the Annual Maize Genetics Meeting (MGM). There are several programs that provide travel/attendance awards; e.g. increasing Disciplinary Breadth (DB), Expanding Institutional Access (EIA), and a general program to support first time attendees.

Here are the awardees for 2025; please congratulate these scientists and welcome them to our famously hospitable conference!

**Undergraduate Student**

Daisy Montero Ibarra, University of California - Davis

Maria Ximena Anleu Gil, UCD, Postdoctoral Mentor

**Graduate Student**

Mariana Chavez, Montclair State University Poster # 22

Enameguono Olomuko, Purdue University Poster # 34

Sara Hafiza, Florida State University Short Talk [T23]

Hank Bass, FSU, Faculty Mentor Poster # 87

Sebastian Mueller, Oregon State University Poster # 158; Lightning Talk [L5]

Edward Fernandez, North Dakota State University Poster # 174

Hanna Pil, North Carolina State University Poster # 202; Lightning Talk [L8]

Vitor Sagae, University of Florida Poster # 238

Shreejana KC, University of Delaware Poster # 256

**Faculty**

Gwonjin Lee, West Virginia State University Poster # 15; Lightning Talk [L28]

Beth Thompson, East Carolina University

Veronica Justen, University of Wisc. - River Falls Poster # 282

The Maize Genetics Meeting is supported in part by IOS Award #2329928 from the National Science Foundation, Plant Genome Research Program.



**Broadening International Participation Awards**

The 2025 Broadening International Participation Award program seeks to promote international attendance for researchers from countries that are historically under-represented at the Maize Meeting. This 2025 award program seeks to enrich the maize community and broaden the opportunities to learn about maize genetics by connecting with scientists in the maize genetics community, exploring potential collaborations, and developing career contacts. BIP awardees receive waived registration to the recorded talks and sessions.

**Research Scientists**

Elena Andriunaite

**Postdoc**

Muhammad Zafar Iqbal

**Graduate Student**

Md Nazmul Hossain