



Ajay Gupta (Chair)

My research is focused on developing and optimizing prime editing systems for crops and utilizing their potential for immunity against pathogens.



Melissa Draves (Co-Chair)

I am currently in my first year of my PhD program in the Division of Plant Science and Technology. I work in the Flint-Garcia lab and my research is focused on maize heirloom varieties of North America.



Trinh Duy (Secretary)

My research involves studying plant-plant movement of RNAs and proteins through the parasitic plant *Cuscuta campestris* and its hosts.



Sandeep Chapagain (Treasurer)

My research focuses on characterizing and dissecting mechanisms of plant adaptation to different environmental conditions. I am working on the switchgrass adaptation.



Elizabeth De Meyer (Social Event Coordinator)

My research as a third year PhD student in the Scaboo Lab focuses on fine-mapping a protein QTL from wild soybean, stability analyses of protein and oil in African soybean variety trials and applying genomic selection in a public soybean breeding program.



Aamir W Khan (Web-master)

My research is focused on deploying the computational genomics and bioinformatics approaches for marker discovery and crop improvement