

Gearing Up for ICPP2018

Renee Rioux, APS 2026 PDF Chair, on behalf of Family Friendly APS, renee.rioux@bayer.com

In 2017, Family Friendly APS kicked off with the Sprouts Kid's Corner and related activities at the annual meeting in San Antonio. The launch was successful, and meeting attendees provided excellent feedback on what went well and what could be improved and on what additional offerings they would like to see in the future. In particular, many of you loved the Sprouts concept and Kid's Corner and reported looking forward to having both continue in the future. You also suggested more engaging activities that seize this initiative as an opportunity for education, not just entertainment. The advisory group has taken this suggestion to heart and is eager to incorporate more learning initiatives into future years.

Although 2018 is not a typical annual meeting year, Family Friendly APS will be at ICPP2018 in Boston, building on last year's successes and adding more resources and activities to improve the meeting experience for anyone attending with family members. Some of the key changes in the works for 2018 include organized offsite outings (Boston has great playgrounds, green spaces, history, and museums!), as well as scheduled, volunteer-led educational activities on site to provide more structure and better learning opportunities. Many of you volunteered to help with leading an activity or reading a story at the Sprouts Kid's Corner through last year's postannual meeting survey. If you were one of these individuals, there's a good chance you will hear from us soon! If you did not volunteer through the annual meeting survey but are interested in leading a Sprouts activity, the team would love to hear from you.

Another focus of this year's efforts will be on providing premeeting information about family friendly attractions and resources in the Boston area. This information will be made available on the ICPP2018 website and will range from nursing locations at Logan Airport to the most exciting attractions around town, and from using the subway system to drop-in childcare options near the convention center. The Family Friendly APS team will also adopt *Phytopathology News* (PPN) as a means of distributing new information on a monthly basis. With each PPN issue leading up to ICPP2018, we will supply a new column on how to make the most of your family's ICPP experience. Next month, look for information on some of our favorite kid-friendly attractions near the convention center. If there's a particular topic you would like to see covered or if you are a Boston native and would like to share your expertise, please let us know! ■



People

Student Degree



Andrea Garfinkel recently received her PhD in plant pathology from Washington State University (WSU). Her dissertation was entitled *Botrytis and Other Fungal Pathogens of Peonies*. Her committee included her advisor, **Gary**

Chastagner, as well as **Tobin Peever**, **Dennis Johnson**, and **Patricia Holloway** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks).

Garfinkel received her BA degree in international studies and MS degree in agronomy from the University of Wyoming. At WSU, she received several scholarships, awards, and honors, including an Achievement Rewards for College Scholars (ARCS) Fellowship; WSU Richard R. and Constance M. Albrecht Scholarship; WSU Alexander A. Smick Scholarship in Rural Community Service and Development; 2015 American Phytopathological Society Pacific Division Student Travel Award; Best Oral Presentation at the International Symposium on Flower Bulbs and Herbaceous Perennials in Kunming, China, in 2016; and First Place in the Graduate Student Oral Presentation at the American Phytopathological Society Pacific Division Meeting in Riverside, California, in 2017.

Garfinkel is exploring job opportunities in both academia and industry.

Awards



COURTESY NCSU

Jean Ristaino, William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology at North Carolina State University (NCSU) and APS Excellence in International Service awardee, has received a Fulbright Award

to spend 6 months at the University of Catania in Italy. She plans to use the award to expand detection of late blight on tomato and potato in southern Europe and the Mediterranean region, including North Africa and the Middle East. A disease and surveillance mapping system in the United States and most of Europe is currently in place, but no such system exists in the areas that Ristaino hopes to target.

In addition to her main project, Ristaino plans to expand her knowledge of bioinformatics at the university's diagnostic lab in Campania, and she hopes to broaden study-abroad opportunities for students at NCSU

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