

## First DPH degree Awarded to Tara Wood



Tara N. Wood, D.P.H. with Doctor of Plant Health Director, Dr. Gary L. Hein

**THE MISSION OF THE DOCTOR OF PLANT HEALTH PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN**

is to produce plant practitioners with broad expertise and experience across the various disciplines that impact plant health and plant management. These plant practitioners (plant doctors) will integrate from across this expertise to diagnose and solve plant health problems and to develop integrated plant and pest management systems that maximize the system's economic, environmental, and social sustainability.

**C**ongratulations to Tara Nicole Wood, D.P.H. Dr. Wood received her Doctor of Plant Health from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on Friday, May 3, 2013 at Kimbell Recital Hall on city campus. Tara is the first graduate from the Doctor of Plant Health program to receive her degree.

## EARLE S. RAUN FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to DPH students Kenneth Roché and Roger Yerdon at a special reception on April 29, 2013.



Earle S. Raun 1924 - 2009

The Earle S. Raun Doctor of Plant Health Fellowship was established in honor of Dr. Raun—who was an early advocate for professional interdisciplinary education.

The intent of the fellowship is to provide support to a DPH student to undertake some professional plant health related activity that

he/she may not be able to undertake without this monetary support.

Kenneth (Kenny) Roché and Roger Yerdon exemplify the spirit and requirements of the Earle S. Raun Fellowship.



Kenneth Roché



Roger Yerdon

Kenny and Roger plan to use the fellowship to attend an Introduction to Aquaponics course at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in the spring of 2014.



Georgia Raun presents the award to Roger Yerdon

Kenny states *"I am interested in small-scale (<5 acres), sustainable, organic food production."*

Roger said *"whatever I decide upon, agriculture, consulting, etc., sustainability will drive my career."*

Both students are excited to receive the fellowship to help offset expenses associated with traveling to the course.

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# DPH Updates

## Summer Internships

Five D.P.H. students will be employed this summer as part of their internship requirements for their degree.

**Chris Borman** is employed as a Diagnostician (Internship) with Bartlett Tree Experts in Charlotte, North Carolina. Chris' duties will include working with the diagnostic staff to identify problems associated with the samples that arrive in the clinic.



Chris will evaluate samples and submit diagnostic reports with recommendations. He will also assist with research projects and travel with field crews to sites to perform diagnostic work and gain experience with diagnostic practices in the field.



**Laura Dotterer** is employed with DuPont Pioneer as an Agronomy Research Intern. Laura will primarily working on two projects utilizing precision agriculture, and helping with variable rate irrigation and variable rate nitrogen trials.

**Justin McMechan** is pursuing joint D.P.H. and Ph.D. degrees. His Ph.D. research will be conducted as field-based studies covering different aspects of the overwintering ecology of wheat curl mite.



His first Internship experience will consist of a series of educational projects with University of Nebraska Extension. These experiences will include applied research, face-to-face programming and development of electronic media.

## Summer employment continued...

**Dori Osantowski** is working with Dow AgroSciences for her second internship as a Research and Development Field Intern.



Dori will work closely with a field scientist to become proficient in field experiments or biochemical assays to characterize experimental, developmental and commercial herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and biotechnology products. Dori will participate in all phases of field development including planning, preparation, collaboration, planting, application, evaluation, and data analysis.



**Jeremy Wagnitz** traveled to Yuma, Arizona where he is employed with Research Designed for Ag as a Research Biologist Intern.

Jeremy will help conduct and prepare contract agricultural field research trials in the low desert of Arizona. The research will be looking at insect pest and pathogens in numerous crops like tomatoes, peppers and melons.

**Haley Oser** is working as a part time research technologist in the Plant Pathology Extension department. Haley will be



conducting a foliar fungicide movement trial in corn and soybeans. She will also be helping with the soybean SCN field trials and participating in Soybean Management Field Days.

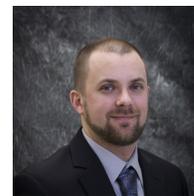


**Kenneth (Kenny) Roché** is working in Organic Cover Crop Research to fulfill his research requirements on Dr. John Lindquist's project "Diverse Cover Crop Strategies for

Improved Yield and Weed Suppression in Organic Cropping Systems for the Western Corn Belt" at the Agricultural Research & Development Center (ARDC) in Mead.

**Margo Wright**

continues working for Dr. Keenan Amundsen in efforts to diagnose some serious turf problems that have developed in their turf plots the past couple years.



**Roger Yerdon** will be working this summer for UNL Extension at the Southeast Research and Extension Center as a "Crop Management

Education Intern". Roger will be conducting field visits and assisting farmers with on-farm research, following protocols and collecting data for Soybean Field Management Days, applying treatments for the CenUSA switchgrass biofuel project, and following treatment protocols for the Crop Management Diagnostics Clinics.

## What we are doing... Summer employment

**Greg Brittain** is spending his summer as an Intern, under the direction of Dr. Tamra Jackson-Ziems, UNL Plant Pathology Dept. Greg will be conducting Goss's Wilt trials on corn varieties, as well as assist in other trials done this summer. The trials are on upcoming hybrids, pedigree lines and bacteriacides.



# TRAVEL & AWARDS

*DPH Students were recognized in many ways this year!*



D.P.H. Presence at the NAICC conference



Anthony Justin McMechan and Gregory Brittain, Jr.  
Doctor of Plant Health students  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Doctor of Plant Health students Anthony 'Justin' McMechan and Gregory Brittain, Jr. attended the 2013 National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultant (NAICC) meeting January 23-26 in Jacksonville, FL.

Justin and Greg had a wonderful time networking with industry and crop consultant professionals.

They also represented the DPH program at the exhibit booth, which was shared with the University of

Florida Doctor of Plant Medicine (DPM) program.

Participants at the meeting viewed presentations focused for the Consultant and Contract Researchers alike; gaining valuable information for their anticipated DPH careers.



Chris Borman receives the Artie Browning Travel Award from Dr. Gary Hein

For the *second* straight year, a Doctor of Plant Health student has received the Browning Travel Award.

Chris plans to use the award to attend the Agricultural American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHA) meeting in Palm Desert, CA. He will be presenting a poster covering his research practicum project.

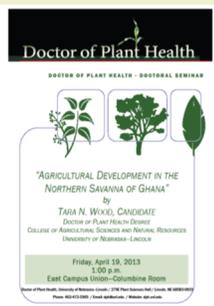
D.P.H. "Black Bag" Ceremony



## Doctoral Seminar

by Tara Wood, D.P.H.

Tara's seminar and doctoral document was "Agricultural Development in the Northern Savannah of Ghana" You may read it on Digital Commons at <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/planthealthdoc/1/>





# Doctor of Plant Health

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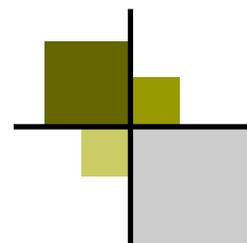
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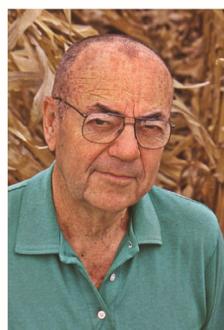
***[www.dph.unl.edu](http://www.dph.unl.edu)***



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## Help us grow the Earl Raun Plant Health Fund



Dr. Earle S. Raun

The Earle S. Raun Doctor of Plant Health Fellowship Fund was created to honor Earle Raun's efforts in establishing UNL's Plant Health Program and his professional contributions to crop consulting and agricultural education.

In addition to his work at UNL, Dr. Raun created Pest Management Company- the first independent crop consulting firm in the Midwest specializing in research and advice on pest management and crop production, and was instrumental in founding the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC) and its Nebraska affiliate, Nebraska Independent Crop Consultant Association (NICCA).

Contributions to this fund will enable UNL to offer fellowships for Doctor of Plant Health students. To give, go to [nufoundation.org/fundsearch](http://nufoundation.org/fundsearch) and enter Earle S. Raun into the search window.

For more information, contact Ann Bruntz at 402-458-1176 or Gary Hein at 402-472-3345.

**CAMPAIGN for  
NEBRASKA**  
UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA FOUNDATION