



INSTITUTE OF  
**PLANT BREEDING,  
GENETICS & GENOMICS**  
at UGA.

**IPBGG EXTENDS A HEARTY WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING  
EIGHT NEW STUDENTS FOR FALL SEMESTER 2015:**



**Timothy Chappell**

Mr. Timothy Chappell is a PBGG Research Assistant in the master's program for 2015. He is working with Dr. Wayne Parrott and his duties include furthering the development of soybean transformation technologies.

Tim received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology from Vanderbilt University in 2014. He served as a research associate and laboratory assistant at Vanderbilt, 2011-2014. Additional employment experience includes landscape/nursery related work as an independent contractor in Nashville in 2014.

Tim served as a research technician in the Parrott Lab at CAGT beginning January 2015, and entered the IPBGG Program in June. Please welcome Tim, his work space is located in the CAGT building, room 141. His email address is: [timchappell@uga.edu](mailto:timchappell@uga.edu).



## Silas Childs

Mr. Childs is a PBGG Research Assistant in the master's program working with Dr. Zenglu Li for 2015. His duties include research in soybean QTL discovery and molecular breeding.

Silas received a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture from West Virginia University (WVU) in 2015. He served as a student research assistant at West Virginia University, where he received extensive greenhouse experience, 2013-2015. Additional work experience includes positions as a curator and teacher's assistant in the WVU Herbarium, 2014-2015.

Silas arrived at UGA from West Virginia in June and served as a laboratory assistant in Dr. Li's lab. He began his assistantship this fall. Please welcome Silas, he works in CAGT, room 202. His email address is: [spchilds@uga.edu](mailto:spchilds@uga.edu).



## Leigh Ann Fall

Ms. Fall is a PBGG Research Assistant in the master's program for 2015. She is working with Dr. Cecilia McGregor. Her duties include greenhouse, field and laboratory research and training in the vegetable breeding program.

Leigh Ann received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Georgia Southwestern State University in 2012.

Her previous work experience includes a position as a research technician at the UGA Horticulture department in Byron, GA, 2013-2014. She also served as a lab technician for the USDA Agricultural Research Service at the Byron Station, 2012-2013. Additionally, she was employed as an instructor at the Academic Skills Center at Georgia Southwestern State University, 2011-2012. Please welcome Leigh Ann, she works in 1102B Miller Plant Sciences. Her email address is: [lfall@uga.edu](mailto:lfall@uga.edu).



## Davis Gimode

Mr. Gimode is a PBGG Research Assistant for 2015, in the Ph.D. program. He is working with Dr. Peggy Ozias-Akins. His duties include research on discovery of genetic components for reducing aflatoxin contamination in peanuts.

Davis received his Bachelor of Science (2010) and Master of Science (2013) degrees in Biotechnology from Kenyatta University, Nairobi.

His previous work experience includes positions as a research fellow with International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), 2012-2014. He also worked for the Africa Biosciences Challenge Fund, Kenya, 2014-2015. Davis arrived at UGA from Kenya in August. Please

welcome him, his office is in CAGT, room 118. His email address is: dgimode@uga.edu.



## Rasyidah Mohamad Razar

Ms. Mohamad Razar is a student in the IPBGG Ph.D. program for 2015. She is working with Dr. Ali Missaoui. Her duties include the genetic mapping of fall/winter dormancy in switchgrass. It involves developing a phenotyping system for fall dormancy rating and marker association analysis and validation.

Rasyidah received a Bachelor of Biomedical Science degree from the International Islamic University, Malaysia, in 2009.

Her work experience includes a position as a research officer in Malaysia for the Malaysian Rubber Board, 2010-2015. The Malaysian Rubber

Board is a sponsor of Rasyidah's academic pursuits at UGA. Rasyidah started the IPBGG program in June. Please welcome her to UGA. She works in CAGT, room 210. Her email address is: rasyidah.mohamadra25@uga.edu.



## Luellen Swayzer

Ms. Swayzer is a PBGG Research Assistant in the master's program for 2015. Luellen is working with Dr. Brian Schwartz, and her duties include research in his turfgrass breeding program.

Luellen received a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Science from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, 2015. She served as an undergraduate student researcher at Cal Poly, 2013-2014. Her internship at the Virginia Country Club, Long Beach, CA, included data collection for golf course greens, 2014. Additional work experience includes a position as a landscape supervisor, Carson, CA, 2006-2015.

Please welcome Luellyn. She arrived at UGA from California in August. Her office is in CAGT, room 118, and her email address is: [Lswayzer@uga.edu](mailto:Lswayzer@uga.edu).



## Nathan Taitano

Mr. Taitano is a PBGG Research Assistant in the Ph.D. program for 2015. He is working with Dr. Esther van der Knaap. His duties include genetic and genomic analysis of pepper fruit traits; greenhouse/field pepper plant maintenance; and organization of seeds and populations.

Nathan received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from The College of Wooster, Ohio, 2014. He began his doctoral studies at Ohio State University (OSU) prior to his arrival at UGA this fall.

His previous work experience includes The College of Wooster, teaching assistant, 2012-2014; OSU Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, research intern, 2013; Grand Teton National Park, SCA AmeriCorps re-vegetation crew, 2014; and Ohio State University, Graduate Fellow, 2014. Please welcome Nathan, his office is in CAGT, room 118. His email address is: [nathan.taitano25@uga.edu](mailto:nathan.taitano25@uga.edu).



## Dung Thuy Tran

Ms. Tran is a PBGG Research Assistant in the master's program for 2015. She is working with Dr. Zenglu Li. Her research duties include QTL mapping and molecular breeding on the traits of importance in soybean.

Dung received a Bachelor of Science degree in Crop Science from the Vietnam National University of Agriculture, Hanoi, in 2013.

Her previous work experience includes a position as a junior researcher at the Plant Resources Center, Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Hanoi, Vietnam, 2013-2014. She also served as a teaching assistant, 2013-2014. Dung was awarded a 2015 Vietnam Education Foundation Fellowship.

Please welcome Dung, she works in CAGT, room 202. Her email address is: [dt12136@uga.edu](mailto:dt12136@uga.edu).