

served as vice president in 1997 and president in 1998. He was also elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Charlie was a member of Memorial Lutheran Church in Ames. He enjoyed attending Iowa State basketball and volleyball games, playing cards with friends and family, and attending his grandchildren's events. He served his neighborhood association as president. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn, and children Jerry, Karen, Nancy, and Brian.

International Exchange

Thanks to a prestigious Fulbright U.S. Research Scholar Award, the NC State William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology **Jean Ristaino** had a chance to both teach and learn as she worked with colleagues and students at the University of Catania in Italy.

Ristaino taught a workshop on Rapid Diagnostic Techniques for Identification of *Phytophthora* with colleague **Santa Olga Cacciola**. The workshop was attended by 30 students from 10 countries. She has built new collaborations to conduct research and help build better infrastructure in plant disease diagnostics in the region. She also attended the 70th anniversary meeting of the Fulbright program in Rome in June and met alumni, current grantees in the region and the U.S. and Italian Ambassadors. She gave a webinar at the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization



Workshop on Rapid Diagnostics Identification of *Phytophthora* Diseases held on May 17-18, 2018, at the University of Catania, Italy. Jean Ristaino, Santa Olga Cacciola, and Antonella Pane organized the meeting.

while in Rome. She was awarded a Fulbright Inter-country grant and lectured at the James Hutton Institute in Dundee Scotland and The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

The Fulbright Award provided an opportunity to work with colleagues in Italy who work on *Phytophthora infestans*. There is a disease and surveillance mapping system in the United States (USAblight) and most of Europe (EuroBlight), but Southern Europe and the Mediterranean area, including North Africa and the Middle East, are not well represented. She expanded the network of scientists

collecting late blight on tomato, an important food crop for Italy and her lab will genotype samples collected.

The experience has broadened her knowledge of Mediterranean crops and diseases. She also edited a book on Emerging Plant Disease and Global Food Security for APS PRESS. She plans to help NC State broaden their study abroad opportunities in the region and explore opportunities to bring NC State students to Italy and University of Catania students to NC State. ■

Graduate Student Spotlight: Lourena Arone Maxwell

Biography

STATUS: Fourth-year PhD

HOMETOWN: Mozambique, Africa

APS INVOLVEMENT: Graduate student vice chair in 2017 and chair in 2018



Research Focus

My research explores impacts of farming practices on fates of aflatoxins and aflatoxin-producing fungi in the environment. I seek to understand intraspecific genetic variability and gene flow and test the possibility that certain aflatoxin producers are differentially adapted to agroecosystems.

Rapid Fire Questions

What is your academic department/section called at your institution?

School of Plant Science

Who is your major professor?

Dr. Peter Cotty

What's something interesting most people don't know about you?

I learned to speak English only 4 years ago, but before that, I loved to sing English songs without understanding their meaning!

What are some interests outside science?

I love to dance! I have attended many dance classes, and when I have time, I like to try to choreograph my own dances to songs.

What is your favorite pathogen/plant disease?

Aspergillus flavus

How did you become interested in the field of plant pathology?

During undergrad, I took plant pathology class, and the professor, Ana Mondjana, was so passionate that it inspired me to pursue the field further..



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