

University of Minnesota Barley CAP Group

The lead institution for the barley CAP is the University of Minnesota. Scientists from the University of Minnesota include: Rex Bernardo, Ruth Dill-Macky, Gary Muehlbauer, Kevin Smith and Brian Steffenson. These five scientists bring a diverse array of skills to the barley CAP. Muehlbauer is the project director and in charge of coordinating all activities of the project. Bernardo has expertise in statistical genetics and will develop the QTL miner software for identifying genotype-trait associations. Bernardo has hired, Srinkanth Srinivasan, a graduate student from the Electrical Engineering program at the University of Minnesota to help write the QTL miner software. Dill-Macky and Steffenson have expertise in plant pathology and will be evaluating the breeding germplasm for resistance to multiple diseases. Steffenson is also one of the coordinators of the education and extension components of the project. Steffenson is in the process of recruiting a graduate student. Smith is a barley breeder and will contribute germplasm and trait data in each year of the project. Smith has successfully recruited two graduate students, Carol Powers (see below) and Jon Massman (will arrive soon).

The first graduate student recruited at the University of Minnesota for the barley CAP is Carol Powers. Carol is a Ph.D. student working with Kevin Smith in the Applied Plant Sciences program. She received her M.S. degree in Plant Breeding from Oregon State University. Her thesis work will focus on using the barley CAP generated data to identify genotype associations with malting quality traits.



Left to right, Brian Steffenson, Gary Muehlbauer, Rex Bernardo, Kevin Smith, Carol Powers and Ruth Dill-Macky.