The Canadian Society of Plant Biologists
La Société Canadienne de Biologie Végétale

2021 Ragai Ibrahim Award for Best Student Paper

Winner:

Dr. Hyun Kung Lee

University of Toronto

Dr. Hyun Kung Lee received his PhD from the Department of Cell & Systems Biology at the University of Toronto (Dr. Daphne Goring's group). He is the first author of the paper "*Lee, HK, Goring, DR. (2020) Two subgroups of receptor-like kinases promote early compatible pollen responses in the Arabidopsis thaliana pistil"* published in the *Journal of Experimental Botany*. The paper describes a novel function for two small clades of cell-surface receptors in pollen-pistil interactions, identifying them as important regulators. Hyun's notable contributions were recognized in the quality of the results, the clarity of presentation, and the variety of techniques employed in addressing the research questions. Further, the paper was viewed as impressive in its completeness and scope, particularly given that the Hyun was the sole experimenter and the only author other than the graduate supervisor.

Honorable mention:

Dr. Carina Carianopol

University of Toronto Scarborough

Dr. Carina Carianopol received her PhD from the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Toronto Scarborough (Dr. Sonia Gazzarrini's group). She is the first author of the paper "*Carianopol CS, Chan AL, Dong S, Provart NJ, Lumba S, Gazzarrini S. (2020). An abscisic acid-responsive protein interaction network for sucrose non-fermenting related kinase1 in abiotic stress response*" published in *Communications Biology*. The paper describes a systems approach to understanding interactions between abscisic acid and the SnRK1 kinase in the plant stress response. Carina was recognized as a driving force behind this paper. The impressive scope of this work and the value of this contribution as a community resource were also apparent. The proof-of-concept experiments with the knock-out mutants sets the stage for the extrapolation of these results to other species, including agriculturally important crops, suggesting potential for a significant lasting impact for this paper.