

Sarah Nell Davidson Awarded 2005 AAAS/ASPB Mass Media Fellowship

Sarah Nell Davidson, Cornell University, has been awarded the 2005 AAAS/ASPB Mass Media Science & Engineering Fellowship. She will spend 10 weeks this summer learning her craft at the *Raleigh News & Observer*. Sarah is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Plant Biology at Cornell, where she spent her first years in the laboratory of June Nasrallah studying the self-incompatibility response in crucifers before switching gears to pursue science writing. She is currently advised by Robert Turgeon as she studies science writing by examining agricultural biotechnology issues in the developing world. She has a B.A. in biology from Reed College in Portland, Oregon, where she studied antioxi-



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dants and nitrogen fixation in legumes (advised by David Dalton). She was an intern at the *Cornell News Service*, where she wrote news briefs and covered speeches and meetings. Currently, she is collaborating with Shawna Williams at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research to initiate a “science café”—a monthly event beginning this fall that she hopes will bring the exciting science happening at Cornell to the Ithaca community at large.

Her awards and honors include two Knudson-Jagendorf fellowships, two honorable mention NSF graduate research fellowships, and a Plant Cell and Molecular Biology Fellowship.

The AAAS/ASPB Mass Media Fellowship is designed to enhance coverage of science-related issues in the media to improve public understanding and appreciation of science and technology. Fellows work for 10 weeks during the summer as reporters, researchers, and production assistants in mass media organizations nationwide. They collaborate with media professionals at radio and television stations, newspapers, and magazines to make important science news clear and comprehensive to the public. Although this is only ASPB’s second year participating, the program is in its 31st year and has supported nearly 500 fellows.

We wish Sarah a fun and productive summer and look forward to reading a full report of her adventures in Raleigh in a fall issue of the *ASPB News!*

