

# Testimony

## Experience at ASTA Annual Convention

"This conference was a great opportunity for me to see the non-science side of the seed industry. It was great to attend some of the talks in intellectual property rights and legal issues that ultimately drive the science side of the industry. It was simply awesome."

**Narinder Singh**  
Kansas State University

"Attending the ASTA convention was a great opportunity for me to see how the industry comes together towards united goals. Since most of my experiences have been in the university or federal system, it was interesting to talk with industry representatives about their research and development priorities as well as how they interface with government agencies and the public. Overall, I enjoyed the OSC experience and connecting with industry leaders and fellow students preparing to enter the seed industry."

**Vivian Bernau**  
The Ohio State University

"The convention was an eye-opening event for me. Some of the most valuable components included learning about the policy and regulatory aspects of the seed industry and the extensive networking opportunities."

**Jorge Venegas**  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

"I really enjoyed my experience last week in Minneapolis. At this convention I made a lot of connections, but I also learned a lot about the culture of the seed industry. From this experience, I am now comfortable interacting with seed executives as peers. I am excited to start my career working in the seed industry now that I know what are the big challenges facing the industry today. My mentor was Don Blackburn of Dow AgroSciences. He was a great guide to the convention and is someone I hope to model my future career after."

**Brian Pfeiffer**  
Texas A&M University