

2025 USWBSI Steering Committee

Area	Representative 1	Representative 2	Representative 3	Representative 4	Representative 5
Wheat Millers (soft and hard)	Reuben McLean (Grain Craft, ID) - 2026 (EC)	North American Millers' Association (Molly Miller, VA)			
Wheat Growers	Bryan Jorgenson (South Dakota Wheat Commission, SD) - 2025	Co-Chair: Richard Magnusson (MN) - 2028 (EC)	National Association of Wheat Growers (Jake Westlin)		
Barley Growers	Minnesota Barley Council (Marv Zutz, MN)	North Dakota Barley Council (Scott Nelson, ND)			
Durum Growers	Dustin Johnsrud (North Dakota Wheat Commission) - 2025	U.S. Durum Growers Association (Jordan Hawbacker, ND)			
Seed Industry	Ken Davis (Grow Pro Genetics, IL) - 2027				
Crop Protection	Terra Hartman (Bayer CropScience, MN) - 2028				
Malting & Brewing Industry	Scott Heisel (American Malting Barley Association, WI) - 2025 (EC)	Paul Sadosky (MillerCoors, WI) - 2028	Jason McCann (Rahr Malting Co., MN) - 2027		
Plant Breeder Public - Wheat	Esten Mason (Colorado State University) - 2026 (EC)	Steven Xu (USDA-ARS, CA) - 2026 (EC)			
Plant Breeder Public - Barley	Rich Horsley (North Dakota State Univ.) - 2027 (EC)	Kevin Smith (Univ. of Minnesota) - 2027			
Pathology - Barley	Alyssa Collins (Pennsylvania State Univ.) - 2027	Frankie Crutcher (Montana State University) - 2027			
Pathology - Wheat	Co-Chair: Ruth Dill-Macky (Univ. of Minnesota) - 2025 (EC)	Carl Bradley (Univ. of Kentucky) - 2025 (EC)			
Food Safety/Toxicology	Yanhong Dong (Univ. of Minnesota) - 2027				
Pre-breeding and Germplasm Development	Gary Muehlbauer (Univ. of Minnesota) - 2027 (EC)				
Pathogen Biology and Genetics	Vacant				
Pasta Industry	Alexis "Lexi" Freier-Johnson (Dakota Growers Pasta Co., MN) - 2025				
Ag. Experiment Station Directors	Joleen Hadrich (Univ. of Minnesota- NCRA) - 2025	Meriem Aoun (Oklahoma State Univ. - SAAESD) - 2028			
Research Area Committee (RAC) Chairs	MGMT - Kaitlyn Bissonnette, Cotton Inc. (2025); FST - Dave Kendra, Cibus, CA (2025); GDER -Harold Trick, Kansas State Univ. (2026); and PBG - Guixia Hao, USDA-ARS (2026)				
Coordinated Project Committee (CPC) Chairs	Barley CP - Mitch Elmore, USDA-ARS (2026); Durum CP - Andrew Friskop, North Dakota State Univ. (2025); Hard Winter Wheat CP - Sunish Sehgal, South Dakota State Univ. (2025); VDHR-SPR - Jason Cook, Montana State Univ. (2025); VDHR-NWW - Jessica Rutkoski, Univ. of IL (2026); and VDHR-SWW - Rick Boyles, Clemson Univ. (2026)				
USDA-ARS National Program Leader overseeing the USWBSI	Oswald Crasta, National Program Leader-Small Grains, USDA-ARS, MD (EC)				
Year term expires is indicated in red font.					
SC terms for EC members and RA/CP Committee chairs are superseded by the terms of their home committee.					
Northern and Southern Associations of Ag Experiment Station Directors appoint their reps to the steering committee for four year terms.					
Organizational Representation - no set term limit					

2025 USWBSI Executive Committee	
Representative Commodity	Name (Organization)
Winter Wheat	Carl Bradley (Univ. of Kentucky, KY) - 2025
Spring Wheat	Ruth Dill-Macky (Co-Chair , Univ. of Minnesota, MN) - 2025
Malting Industry	Scott Heisel (American Malting Barley Assoc., WI) - 2025
Barley	Rich Horsley (North Dakota State Univ., ND) - 2027
All	Richard Magnusson (Co-Chair , Private Grower, MN) - 2028
Winter Wheat	Esten Mason (Colorado State Univ., CO) - 2026
Spring Wheat	Gary Muehlbauer (Univ. of Minnesota, MN) - 2027
Milling Industry	Reuben McLean (Grain Craft, ID) - 2026
Durum	Steven Xu (USDA-ARS, CA) - 2026
USDA-ARS	Oswald Crasta (USDA-ARS, MD) - non-voting
Year term expires is indicated in red font.	

2025 USWBSI Research Area Committees		
FHB Management (MGMT)	Kaitlyn Bissonnette (Cotton Inc.) - 2027	Chair - 2025
	Alyssa Koehler (Univ. of Delaware) - 2027	Vice-Chair - 2026
	Briana Whitaker (USDA-ARS, IL) - 2026	
	Christina Cowger (USDA-ARS, NC) - 2027	
	Erick DeWolf (Kansas State Univ.) - 2026	
MGMT's Integrated Management Coordinated Project (IM-CP)	Pierce Paul (The Ohio State Univ.)	Chair
	Alyssa Koehler Betts	
	Kiersten Wise (Univ. of Kentucky)	
Food Safety and Toxicology (FST)	David Kendra (Cibus, CA) - 2027	Chair - 2025
	Mark Busman (USDA-ARS,IL) - 2026	Vice-Chair - 2026
	Chris Maragos (USDA-ARS, IL) - 2026	
	Zhao Jin (North Dakota State Univ.) - 2027	
Gene Discovery & Engineering Resistance (GDER)	Harold Trick (Kansas State Univ.) - 2026	Chair - 2026
	Nidhi Rawat (Univ. of Maryland) - 2027	Vice-Chair - 2026
	William Hay (USDA-ARS, IL) - 2028	
	Matthew Helm (USDA-ARS, IN) - 2028	
Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG)	Guixia Hao (USDA-ARS, IL) - 2028	Chair - 2026
	Christopher Toomajian (Kansas State Univ., KS) - 2027	Vice-Chair - 2026
	Santiago Mideros (Univ. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign) - 2026	
	Milton Drott (USDA-ARS, MN) - 2026	
	Gazala Ameen (South Dakota State Univ., SD) - 2027	
Year Committee member term expires is indicated in red font.		
Year Chair term expires is indicated in blue font.		

2025 USWBSI Commodity-based Coordinated Project (CP) Committees

Barley Coordinated Project (BAR-CP)	Mitch Elmore (USDA-ARS, MN) - 2028	Chair - 2026
	Max Fraser (Anheuser-Busch InBev) - 2028	
	Ashley McFarland (American Malting Barley Assoc.) - 2026	
	Belay Yimer (USDA-ARS, ID) - 2028	
Durum Coordinated Project (DUR-CP)	Andrew Friskop (North Dakota State Univ.) - 2028	Chair - 2025
	Elias Elias (North Dakota State Univ.) - 2026	
	Greg Miller (Winland Foods) - 2028	
	Shaobin Zhong (North Dakota State Univ.) - 2028	
Hard Winter Wheat Coordinated Project (HWW-CP)	Sunish Sehgal (South Dakota State Univ.) - 2025	Chair - 2025
	Shaukat Ali (South Dakota State Univ.) - 2026	
	Sue Mondal (Montana State Univ.) - 2027	
Variety Development - Spring Wheat (SPR)	Jason Cook (Montana State Univ.) - 2027	Chair - 2025
	Andrew Green (North Dakota State Univ.) - 2025	
	Jason Fiedler (USDA-ARS, ND) - 2026	
Variety Development - Northern Soft Winter Wheat (NWW)	Jessica Rutkoski (Univ. of Illinois) - 2028	Chair - 2026
	Mohsen Mohammadi (Purdue Univ.) - 2028	
	Eric Olson (Michigan State Univ.) - 2028	
Variety Development - Southern Soft Winter Wheat (SWW)	Rick Boyles (Clemson Univ.) - 2027	Chair - 2026
	Allen Becker (Grow Pro Genetics, LLC) - 2027	
	Noah Dewitt (Louisiana State Univ. Ag Center) - 2028	