

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 Hawbaker, 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) - 2025 (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) - 2025
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

	Position		Term Ending (December 31 of year indicated)
FHB Management (MGMT)	Chair	Kaitlyn Bissonnette (Cotton Inc.)	2025
	Vice Chair	Alyssa Koehler (Univ. of Delaware)	2025
	Member	Briana Whitaker (USDA-ARS, IL)	2026
	Member	Christina Cowger (USDA-ARS, NC)	2027
	Member	Erick DeWolf (Kansas State Univ.)	2026
MGMT's Integrated Management Coordinated Project (IM-CP)	Chair	Pierce Paul (The Ohio State Univ.)	No term
	Member	Alyssa Koehler Betts (Univ. of Delaware)	No term
	Member	Kiersten Wise (Univ. of Kentucky)	No term
Food Safety and Toxicology (FST)	Chair	David Kendra (Cibus, CA)	2025
	Vice Chair	Mark Busman (USDA-ARS, IL)	2025
	Member	Chris Maragos (USDA-ARS, IL)	2026
	Member	Zhao Jin (North Dakota State Univ.)	2027
Gene Discovery & Engineering Resistance (GDER)	Chair	Harold Trick (Kansas State Univ.)	2026
	Vice Chair	Nidhi Rawat (Univ. of Maryland)	2026
	Member	William Hay (USDA-ARS, IL)	2028
	Member	Matthew Helm (USDA-ARS, IN)	2028
Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG)	Chair	Guixia Hao (USDA-ARS, IL)	2026
	Vice Chair	Christopher Toomajian (Kansas State Univ., KS)	2026
	Member	Santiago Mideros (Univ. of Illinois)	2026
	Member	Milton Drott (USDA-ARS, MN)	2026
	Member	Gazala Ameen (South Dakota State Univ., SD)	2027

2025 USWBSI Commodity-based Coordinated Project (CP) Committees

	Position		Term Ending (December 31 of year indicated)
Barley Coordinated Project (BAR-CP)	Chair	Mitch Elmore (USDA-ARS, MN)	2026
	Vice Chair	Belay Yimer (USDA-ARS, ID)	2026
	Member	Max Fraser (Anheuser-Busch InBev)	2028
	Member	Ashley McFarland (American Malting Barley Assoc.)	2026
Durum Coordinated Project (DUR-CP)	Chair	Andrew Friskop (North Dakota State Univ.)	2025
	Vice Chair	Elias Elias (North Dakota State Univ.)	2025
	Member	Greg Miller (Winland Foods)	2028
	Member	Shaobin Zhong (North Dakota State Univ.)	2028
Hard Winter Wheat Coordinated Project (HWW-CP)	Chair	Sunish Sehgal (South Dakota State Univ.)	2025
	Vice Chair	Sue Mondal (Montana State Univ.)	2025
	Member	Shaukat Ali (South Dakota State Univ.)	2026
	Member	Narinder Singh (Bayer)	2028
Variety Development - Spring Wheat (SPR)	Chair	Jason Cook (Montana State Univ.)	2025
	Vice Chair	Jason Fiedler (USDA-ARS, ND)	2025
	Member	Andrew Green (North Dakota State Univ.)	2025
	Member	Karl Glover (South Dakota State Univ.)	2028
Variety Development - Northern Soft Winter Wheat (NWW)	Chair	Jessica Rutkoski (Univ. of Illinois)	2026
	Vice Chair	Eric Olson (Michigan State Univ.)	2026
	Member	Mohsen Mohammadi (Purdue Univ.)	2028
	Member	Jana Murche (KWS)	2028
Variety Development - Southern Soft Winter Wheat (SWW)	Chair	Rick Boyles (Clemson Univ.)	2026
	Vice Chair	Noah Dewitt (Louisiana State Univ. Ag Center)	2026
	Member	Allen Becker (Grow Pro Genetics, LLC)	2027
	Member	Nicholas Santantonio (Virginia Tech)	2028