



# Seed Testing Research Foundation

239 34th Ave.  
Brookings, SD 57006

[www.SeedTestingResearchFoundation.com](http://www.SeedTestingResearchFoundation.com)

## Board of Directors

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## Proposal Review

Dr. Cindy Finneseth, Chair  
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Services

## Advisors to the Board

Dr. Kent Bradford  
University of California,  
Davis

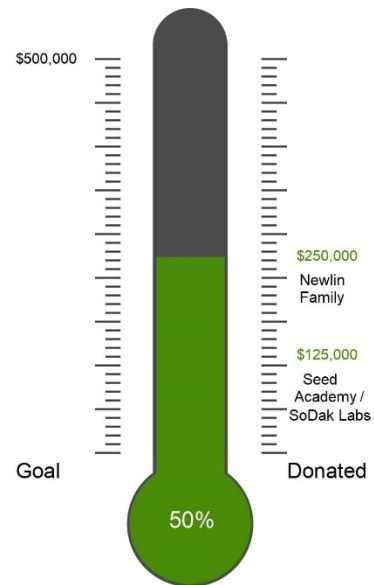
Brian Berkenhoff, CFA  
Birch Investment  
Management, L.L.C.

Press Release:

May 2022

The Seed Testing Research Foundation (STRF) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the establishment of the Newlin Basic Research Endowment Fund and the renaming of the former Applied Seed Testing Research Fund to the new Wiesner Seed Technology Research Fund.

**Newlin Basic Seed Research Endowment:** The Newlin Basic Seed Research Endowment Fund has been established by the Owen Newlin Family in honor of Owen's relentless work to support seed research. The fund has currently received \$250,000 in donations as a challenge match towards a fundraising goal of \$500,000 endowment to support basic research in seed biology and seed pathology. *Founding Member* donations to this fund can be made to Brian Berkenhoff, CFA, Birch Investment Management, LLC (please contact Brian for endowment donation details) or contact an STRF Board Member with questions. STRF's goal is to complete fundraising in 2022 and begin a Call for Proposals in 2023. STRF expects to be a supporting partner in graduate research assistantships. Annual grants of \$20,000 to \$40,000 are the current expectations of this endowment once fully funded.



*Supporting Members* wishing to make annual contributions through the STRF Annual Sponsorship donation can do so via the STRF website ([seedtestingresearchfoundation.com](http://seedtestingresearchfoundation.com)) or by contacting an STRF Board Member. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 annually, to be invested in endowments or to grant as research awards annually. Past contributions have included National, Regional and State Seed Associations, seed companies, seed testing entities and individuals. The donor may direct funds to specific purposes, either: 1) basic, applied seed research endowments or 2) funding of current proposals.

**Wiesner Seed Technology Research Endowment:** The STRF Board is also pleased to announce the renaming of the "Applied Seed Testing Research Fund," established in 2002, as the Wiesner Seed Technology Research Fund. This fund is targeted toward more applied seed testing research projects. Funding of \$10,000-\$15,000 annually is achieved through endowment earnings and the Annual Online Silent Auction (contact an STRF Board Member to donate). STRF will be announcing the annual Call for Proposals in the coming weeks; contact Board Member Cindy Finneseth for more details.