New oat breeder at the University of Wisconsin.

Lucia Gutierrez is the new Oat Breeder at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. She completed her Ph.D. in Plant Breeding at Iowa State University working with Jean-Luc Jannink in Quantitative Genetics. After her Ph.D., Lucia was an Assistant Professor at the Universidad de la Republica in Uruguay. During this time, she led a team on Statistical Genetics working with cereal breeders to develop and deploy quantitative genetics tools for marker-assisted plant breeding.

Lucia was recently hired as an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin – Madison to lead the Cereals Breeding and Quantitative Genetics group. Her program focuses on breeding cereals for more sustainable agricultural systems by working on the study of complex quantitative traits and the development, comparison, and deployment of new methodologies for quantitative genetics data analysis for plant breeding. She works in three areas, using genomic data to unveil new genetic diversity for deployment in breeding programs: 1) population genetics and diversity; 2) quantitative genetics applied to plant breeding; and 3) experimental designs and multi-environment studies for large genetic data. She is specifically interested in methods to deal with genotype-by-environment interactions for plant breeding in the genomics era. Lucia will expand the Oat Breeding Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, focusing on high-yielding varieties with excellent food quality traits including high beta-glucan content.

Lucia's contact information can be found here:
http://agronomy.wisc.edu/people/faculty/lucia-gutierrez/

-submitted by Lucia Gutierrez, November, 2015.