

PRESS RELEASE

March 16, 2017

Sehgal Foundation awarded Outstanding Service in Agriculture Award



Sehgal Foundation, based in Des Moines, Iowa, is the proud recipient of the Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Leader Award for Outstanding Service in Agriculture. The fifth annual award presentation was held on Tuesday March 7, 2017, at the Iowa Agricultural Leaders Dinner on the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines. Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey presented the awards, and Jay Sehgal accepted the honor on behalf of Sehgal Foundation.

The Agriculture Leader Awards were created by Secretary Northey with the goal of honoring and celebrating Iowa citizens, companies, and organizations that have contributed to Iowa's agriculture industry in leadership roles in Innovation, Conservation, Service, and Collaboration.

The three other awards were presented to 1) Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy Science Team for Leadership in Conservation, 2) The Coalition to Support Iowa Farmers for Leadership in Collaboration, and 3) Sukup Manufacturing for Leadership in Innovation. All four winners were honored for their progress, innovative solutions, commitment to serving our communities through collaboration and hard

work, and because they epitomize the values of Iowa agriculture that make the state a national and global leader.

Sehgal Foundation ties between Iowa and India are many. Iowa Agriculture Secretary Northey is a longtime friend of Sehgal Foundation. He has visited Sehgal Foundation in Gurgaon, India, and also graciously met with representatives from India when they visit Iowa. Sehgal Foundation's endowment partnership with the Iowa State University has brought students from India, Nepal, and Bhutan. A partnership with the University of Iowa's WINTERIM program has brought engineering students to India to study groundwater salinity. A partnership with the World Food Prize has brought interns to India each year.

Jay Sehgal credits the foundation's many agriculture partnerships for receiving this award, and especially the collaborative work with Mosaic Fertilizer Company and Mosaic Foundation. With strong partnerships, Sehgal Foundation teams in India and Iowa continue to design and promote rural development interventions that create opportunities, build resilience, and provide solutions to some of the most pressing challenges in India's poorest communities. Working with communities, Sehgal Foundation creates and implements programs that increase agricultural productivity, manage water resources, strengthen rural governance, and empower the poor, especially women. Crop research is adapted to meet local needs, and advocacy for biodiversity and conservation is built into all projects.

Contact: Jay Sehgal

Website: www.smsfoundation.org

Email: jay.sehgal@smsfoundation.org

Cell: (515) 321 1709