

Alexandria Simmons

October 23, 2023

Kristina Weber  
1220 Street, Room 221  
Sacramento, CA 9514

Dear Ms. Weber,

I would like to express my interest in serving as a non-voting ex officio member of the Nursery Advisory Board (NAB) to represent the Plant Right program. The Plant Right program, formed in 2005, is a collaborative effort between conservation professionals, academia and the nursery industry to prevent the sale and use of invasive plants in California. Horticulture is the number one pathway for invasive plants, and it is important that the nursery industry takes the lead in prevention.

In 2019, I was hired to manage the Plant Right program, and I have conducted online and in-person surveys for invasive plants in the retail nursery industry. I am also the Associate Director of the Plant California Alliance and the Executive Administrator for the International Plant Propagators' Society, Western Region of North America. I am well connected to leaders in horticulture in California and on the West Coast, and I am passionate and well informed about the issues surrounding our industry. For these reasons, I believe that I would be a valuable addition to NAB.

Most importantly, I would be representing an important topic in horticulture, invasive plants. This is a critical issue which must be addressed to achieve California climate goals. With a non-voting seat on the NAB, I will draw more attention to this concern and contribute to finding collective solutions.

Thank you for considering my letter of interest and my resume. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,  
Alexandria Simmons  
Program Manager  
Plant Right

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Ag Association Management, Inc., Sacramento, CA**

October 2019-Present

Manages and operates a diverse group of agriculture-based organizations and is known as a leader in agriculture.

*Associate Director*

- Manage the PlantRight invasive plant prevention program, including conducting an annual nursery survey.
- Coordinate Board of Directors and committees.

### **Brightview Landscaping, Mountain View, CA**

October 2017-July 2019

A top commercial landscaping company. Contracted to maintain Google landscape.

*Community Gardens Coordinator*

- Manage nine outdoor culinary gardens.
- Communicate with culinary staff to ensure safely-handled, fresh produce.
- Guide Google employees and culinary staff in gardening activities and education.
- Maintain an indoor hydroponic garden.

### **Davis Farmers Market, Davis, CA**

December 2013-October 2017

Provider of fresh, local food and leader in environmental sustainability.

*Waste Diversion Coordinator*

- Recruit, coordinate and train interns & volunteers.
- Enforce waste policies with vendors and guests.
- Educate guests and interns about composting and recycling practice

### **UC Davis Student Farm, Davis, CA**

December 2015-March 2017

Organic farm which provides weekly produce for a CSA and campus dining services which is also a teaching and research space for the Davis community.

*Harvest Coordinator*

- Collaborate with UC Davis Dining Services to plan and fulfill orders.
- Lead teams of student interns and volunteers in field and greenhouse tasks.

### **UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, Davis, CA**

September 2013-June 2015

A living museum that provides space for outdoor recreation, relaxation, and community events and services.

*Student Coordinator & Intern*

- Plan and host interactive educational events
- Coordinate and train volunteers.

## EDUCATION

### **University of California, Davis, CA**

December 2015

Bachelor of Science, Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems

### **Sierra College, Rocklin, CA**

May 2013

Associate of Science, Biological Science