Rich Novy is a potato breeder/geneticist with the USDA-ARS at Aberdeen, Idaho and has been in this position since 1999. He attended Washington State University and obtained his B.S. in Horticulture (1986) and his M.S. (1988) and Ph.D. (1992) in Plant Breeding and Genetics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (where he also met and married his lovely wife, Elissa).

Following graduate school, Rich was a postdoctoral fellow with Rutgers University conducting research on blueberry and cranberry genetics. He returned to his favorite crop as a potato breeder at North Dakota State University until acceptance of his current position at Aberdeen. Emphasis of his research has been potato germplasm and variety development with emphasis on incorporating disease and pest resistances, enhancing tuber quality attributes such as cold-sweetening resistance, improving nutrient and water efficiencies, and enhancing nutritional qualities.

Rich attended his first PAA meeting in 1988 at Fort Collins, CO as a graduate student and has served as secretary (1997), vice-chair (1998), and chair (1999) of the Breeding and Genetics section of The PAA, as well as on the Graduate Student Awards Committee. He also recently served as Director on the Executive Committee of The PAA (2012-15) and has been chair of the PAA Site Selection Committee since 2014. Rich has also served as senior editor for the *American Journal of Potato Research* since 2007.

Rich has regularly attended the PAA annual meetings with his family and enjoys the presentations as well as the time spent with other attendees. He has appreciated the efforts of past officers in strengthening and advancing the PAA, and would like to do the same for current and future PAA members.