SREEKALA G. BAJWA, department chair, Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Department, North Dakota State University (NDSU), Fargo, North Dakota, is being honored for outstanding research in precision agriculture and biocomposites, stakeholder engagement, academic leadership, and service to agricultural and biological engineering.

Bajwa's research has two main focuses: creating value added products derived from agricultural waste streams and utilizing aerial remote sensing in agriculture. Bajwa built a research program in biocomposites to remove products from agricultural waste stream to create value-added products, which has led to new commercial products used in various industrial materials. Bajwa's work in precision agriculture and the application of remote sensing to predict crop yield, monitor crop condition, and soil characteristics are major technological contributions.

Bajwa's term as department chair of the NDSU Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering department has seen improvement in several ways. While department chair, Bajwa has developed a strong network of alumni, industry, and other stakeholder groups to garner support for the department. The NDSU Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Department research productivity has doubled since Bajwa took over as chair. Bajwa's research program development in precision agriculture and unmanned aerial systems at NDSU has led to an internationally respected reputation for the program and the department.

A 21 year member of ASABE, Bajwa has served on many ASABE committees. Most recently, she has worked as a program evaluator for the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. Bajwa was instrumental in elevating the ASABE International Commission to E-2050 Global Engagement committee, an ASABE executive level committee. She has been a leader in the Academic Program Administrators committee, the Information Technology, Sensors, and Control Systems (ITSC) community, and the Kishida International Award committee. Bajwa has served as an associate editor for the ITSC technical community since 2002. Bajwa is also a member of North Dakota State University Chancellor's NEXUS-ND Working Group on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

Bajwa is author or coauthor of more than 200 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, or conference proceeding papers. Bajwa has received several ASABE paper awards. She is listed as inventor or coinventor on one patent and two invention disclosures. Bajwa has received several scholarships and grants in recognition of, and to support her ongoing work. This includes being named the 2015 Mevlana Scholar and receiving the 2013 Ozbun Economic Development award. Bajwa was named Outstanding Agricultural Engineer by the ASABE Arkansas Section and received the 2007 Outstanding Young Researcher award from the Asian Association for Agricultural Engineering.