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SASES Holiday Special

Warmth for the Wake

On February 11th, eight members of the Agronomy Club including: Lewis Braswell, Brandon Poole, Zack Barnes, Justin Milstein, Jamie Rice, Joseph Cheek, Hank Edmondson, and Bennett Williford volunteered their Saturday morning to split wood for the needy of Raleigh at Warmth for Wake. The volunteers met at 8:00 a.m. behind Williams Hall and departed in three vehicles. Upon arrival, the Agronomy Club volunteers mentioned above joined several other volunteers and began sawing, splitting, loading, and delivering wood. Zack and Lewis volunteered their trucks to help deliver the wood to the needy families, and once they had loaded the truck Lewis and Joseph left in Lewis' truck and Zack and Bennett left in Zack's truck to deliver the wood. Brandon, Hank, Justin, and Jamie stayed and continued splitting and stacking wood for the next loads while the others were out delivering. Ten loads of wood were split and delivered in all, and the whole project was done by 10:30 a.m. It was a very rewarding experience being able to help provide families with a source of heat who might otherwise be able to heat their homes during the cold winter months.

Justin Milstein | North Carolina State University

Save the Date!

Happy New Year!

1/1



Paper Contest

2/28

Soil Horizons
Presents their
Student Paper
Contest - Pg. 3

Regional Meeting

3/27-3/29



Take a Break...

Even during school breaks, it's important to maintain an effective online presence to help you connect with employers in your job or internship search. After all, with each class you complete, you're gaining new skills, knowledge, areas of expertise, and recognition – all accomplishments you should emphasize to prospective employers.

Visit the Science Societies Career Center and in just a few minutes, you can:

- **Post or update your resume for FREE**
- **Add up to five supporting documents** -- cover letter, CV, published articles, and more!
- **Create your Professional Profile** - a user-friendly presentation of your qualifications and information pre-populated from your resume.
- **Set up a Job Agent** – receive notification whenever a matching job or internship is posted.

Upload or update your professional profile at careerplacement.org today!

Going for the Gold

At the beginning of August, as I was wrapping up my summer internship and getting back in to school mode, I received an email informing me I had been accepted into the Golden Opportunity Institute. I was ecstatic to attend the National SASES and Tri-Societies Meetings in Tampa FL. I understood I would have a mentor, attend meetings, and have a chance to network. However, I didn't know I was going to be treated like a VIP, have dinner with executives, and eat an absurd amount of food.



So, what does it mean to be a Golden Opportunity (GO) Scholar? According to the Agronomic Science Foundations' (ASF) Annual Report: "The Golden Opportunity Scholar Institute fosters the development of the very best of our current students so they can on a successful career path... The students are matched with Society member who serves as their mentors." I will say this, ASF, that is an extremely modest statement! Being a Golden Scholar is a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet the people who have paved the path of our future careers. It is THE opportunity to ask any question about our industry. For me, it was the greatest networking experience (I say this after spending my undergraduate years doing internships, holding leadership positions, and attending social events on campus).

Being a GO Scholar begins with the roommate. Yes, on the all-expense paid trip you have to room with a random person from another university. Yes, I was nervous (bad experience in the dorms) but my roommate turned out to be amazing. Being assigned a random roommate immediately forces you out of your comfort zone to create a less awkward situation and at least for me, a good friend and professional contact in the future.

The next GO Scholar event was what I'll call "The Meeting of the Mentor." You have an opportunity to introduce yourself to all the mentors and scholars. During the meeting, we also spent time talking with our mentors: learning their backgrounds, current positions, and they were all excited to learn our educational and career goals.

Immediately following that meeting, we were invited to the ASF VIP Reception. Donors, Society Officers, Board Members, Professors, Researchers, Executives, Fellows, AND GO Scholars were all in attendance. I was serious about the VIP statement earlier. Mentors begin introducing to us to their colleagues. We then watched the Opening Keynote Speaker, author Alan AtKisson.

That all happened the FIRST day of the Tri-Societies Meeting. I'll fast forward through the rest of the week. We attended the ASA, SSSA, and CSSA breakfasts being introduced at the beginning of each event. We had dinner and Q&A session with Monsanto Executives. We were assigned groups to give presentations. Our mentors helped guide us through the meetings, took us out for one-on-one lunches, suggested presentations to attend, and introduced us to as many people as possible.

I would highly recommend anyone interested to look further into this amazing opportunity. You can get more information by visiting www.goldenopportunitiescholars.org.

Soil Horizons Paper Contest



Submit your entries by February 28, 2014.

a subscription to Soil Horizons, and the winning papers will be published in Soil Horizons.

Topics

Any topic related to soils, agriculture, field ecology, soil survey, or history of soils is appropriate. Topics should be related to the scope of Soil Horizons and may be research results or non-research topics. Topics may include:

- Soil survey problems
- Innovative methods and equipment
- Landscape and soil research studies
- Case studies from consulting work
- Issues in soil taxonomy systems
- Profiles in history
- Travelogues from soil expeditions

Style

A suggested limit is 800 to 2000 words for the main body of the manuscript (excluding title, captions, references, etc.). Use of original photos, illustrations, and/or tables is encouraged. Research papers must follow the typical Soil Horizons format for content (Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions) and have citations and references. Writing must follow the protocols of the SSSA Style Manual found at <https://dl.sciencesocieties.org/publications/style>.

Scope

The topic must be either research results or original information; the article should be the original efforts of the submitter. While faculty members can provide some review and be a junior author, the submission must represent the work of the student. The students are

Soil Horizons is pleased to announce its annual paper contest for students at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The winner of each category will receive a one-year student membership to Soil Science Society of America, which includes

requested to have a faculty sponsor to help coordinate the submission if there are multiple entries per institution. Only one entry is allowed per person.

Who

There are two categories, undergraduate and graduate. The article should be written while the student is an undergraduate or graduate student at an accredited institution within the current academic year. In cases where there are multiple entries from a single institution, sponsoring faculty advisors are requested to help judge local entries, but more than one entry per institution is permitted.

Selection of Winners

Submitted articles will be evaluated by the editorial board and winners of each category (as well as runner ups) will be published. Criteria for selection of the winners will be originality, creativity, and content.

Submissions

Submit manuscripts online at the Soil Horizons Manuscript Central site (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/soilhorizons>). To be considered for the contest, applicants must (i) select "Special Submissions" as the Manuscript Type and (ii) include a cover letter requesting that the paper be evaluated as an entry in the graduate or undergraduate student paper contest.

Questions

Questions should be directed to Phil Smith, associate editor and student contest coordinator (philip.smith@ca.usda.gov), or Lisa Al-Amoodi, Managing Editor (lalamoodi@sciencesocieties.org).



2013 Collegiate Crops Contest

During the second to last week of November, several schools traveled to Kansas City and Chicago in hopes of bringing home a few Collegiate Crops Judging trophies. Both contests offered tours the day before the contest to help students identify the purpose and make connections through all the hard work they had done past few months to prepare for the contests. In Kansas City, students had the opportunity to visit the Federal Grain Inspection Agency, Federal Reserve, a bakery, and other locations.

While in Chicago, we toured the CME Group and were given the privilege to walk through the trading floor of the stock exchange. We were also given the chance to do some sight seeing while we were there.

For both contests, students were required to

complete three different activities. Each activity had a time limit of 90 minutes. One part of the contest involved identifying 200 samples that are either a plant, seed, or a plant disease. The next part of the contest was seed analysis. Students were required to pick seed contaminates out of ten different base samples, and then identify the contaminates in their correct classification as either a crop, common weed, prohibited noxious weed, or a restricted weed. The final portion of the contest was grain grading. Students were given eight samples of grains that needed to be examined and correctly graded, using the same practices as the grain inspection agencies. (2013 CROPS CONTEST RESULTS - Pg. 6)

Jeri Sigle | Kansas State University

Connecting with the Past

The Field and Furrow Club is unique in that our campus, the University of Illinois, has the oldest experimental fields for agriculture in the entire United States that continue to be used, which includes a continuous corn plot that has the longest



running term in the world. This National Historic Landmark is the Morrow Plots, established in 1876, the same year the United States celebrated its centennial. Three men are credited with the establishment of the plots, George Morrow, the College of Agriculture's first dean, Manley Miles, an agricultural professor, and C. W. Silver, an agricultural chemist. These men wanted the plots to be used for experimental research on crop productivity. Of the original ten half-acre plots, there are only three plots left, equaling six-tenths of an acre. These reductions are due to some construction and conversion back to grass. Never the less, the Morrow Plots are still being used today. Our club has the privilege to visit these plots, which NO ONE ELSE on campus is allowed to do! We participate in cleaning up the garbage around the plots once in the fall semester and once in the spring semester every year. Not only is it nice to chat with friends and take a big club picture, but we realize the importance of taking care of this National Historic Landmark. This is something neat that our club has a connection with and is important in the history of agriculture.

Jarai Carter | University of Illinois

SASES Holiday Special (continued)



Tis the Season...

The students of the Iowa State Agronomy Club have been very festive leading up to the holidays this year. During the season of giving we wanted to reach out to the community and support those that are less fortunate. In honor of that goal, the club purchased four gifts for the Department of Agronomy's giving tree that were donated to needy families in the Ames area. A scooter, girl's winter boots, boy's jeans and a doll were the gifts chosen to make four special children's Christmas dreams come true.

Another thing the club does at the end of the semester is put on a pancake breakfast for the Agronomy department. This event allows us to show our appreciation

to the faculty and staff of our department, as well as a great opportunity for student-faculty interaction outside the classroom. This year we served nearly 45 people and had over 20 members help from setup to tear down.

And of course, what wraps up the semester better than a Christmas party!? (Nothing.) On the snowy evening of December 8th, 22 of our members gathered for our club's holiday party. The night consisted of a catered meal, socializing, and exchanging comical white elephant gifts. Some examples of gifts were oversize dolls, superman boxers, hard hats and other various knick-knacks. Games like apples to apples were played and many laughs were had. We have had a great time celebrating the end of the semester leading up to the holiday break and hope that all of your clubs do too.



Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year from the Iowa State Agronomy Club to you!

2013 Collegiate Crops Contest Results

American Royal Kansas City Sponsored by CHS

Grain Grading

1st place Team: Kansas
State University
1st place Individual: Morgan
Halderson (KSU)

Seed Analysis

1st place Team: University of
Wisconsin-Platteville
1st place Individual: Emma
Addy (UW-P)

Plant and Seed Identification

1st place Team: Kansas State
University
1st place Individual: Jeri Sigle (KSU)

Overall – Team

1st – Kansas State University
2nd – University of Wisconsin-Platteville
3rd – University of Minnesota-Crookston
4th – Virginia Tech University
5th – South Dakota State University

Overall – Individual

1st – Jeri Sigle (KSU)
2nd – Nathan Larson (KSU)
3rd – Morgan Halderson (KSU)
4th – Garrett Badtke (UW-P)
5th – Emma Addy (UW-P)
6th – Austin Underdahl (UW-P)
7th – Amanda Crook (UM-C)
8th – Cory Engen (SDSU)
9th – Rachel Elshaug (UM-C)
10th – Betsy Thoreson (UM-C)

Chicago, Sponsored by CME Group

Grain Grading

1st place Team: Kansas
State University
1st place Individual (tie):
Jeri Sigle (KSU) and
Nathan Larson (KSU)

Seed Analysis

1st place Team:
University of Wisconsin-
Platteville
1st place Individual:
Garrett Badtke (UW-P)

Plant and Seed Identification

1st place Team: Kansas State University
1st place Individual: Nathan Larson (KSU)

Overall – Team

1st – Kansas State University
2nd – University of Wisconsin-Platteville
3rd – University of Minnesota-Crookston
4th – Virginia Tech University
5th – Oklahoma State University

Overall – Individual

1st – Jeri Sigle (KSU)
2nd – Nathan Larson (KSU)
3rd – Morgan Halderson (KSU)
4th – Garrett Badtke (UW-P)
5th – Brittany Iverson (UW-P)
6th – Amanda Crook (UM-C)
7th – Austin Underdahl (UW-P)
8th – Rachel Elshaug (UM-C)
9th – Cory Engen (SDSU)
10th – Cody Thompson (VT)

Goodbye 2013, Hello 2014!

...Well everyone, this about wraps up my term as Corresponding Secretary. I hope you've enjoyed receiving the SASES Times. I truly believe it is an invaluable tool that helps us all connect a little bit better. This publication had been put out in the past, but somewhere between school, club activities and everything else in our busy lives, it got lost somewhere along the way. With that being said, I would be remiss if I did not thank those who contributed photos, articles, and support as I undertook this project. Without all of those individuals, none of this would ever have been possible. This organization has so much potential and power, and my only hope is that the 2014 Officer Team can continue to inspire and involve our members.

It's been a great year and 2014 is going to be even better!
See you around!



Best Regards,
Bailey Morrell | Iowa State University
SASES Corresponding Secretary
SASES Times Managing Editor

SASES Times Committee Opening

Did you miss the deadline for SASES Committee Application? No worries! We are currently looking to start a SASES Times committee. Committee members should be able to brainstorm potential article ideas and then approach schools with those ideas, collect and forward articles to committee leader, and be able to stick to deadlines. All interested individuals can email me at bmorrell@iastate.edu with questions or for more information.



Mark Sullivan - President
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SASES
Students of Agronomy, Soils
and Environmental Sciences
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2013 - 2014 Officer Team