

# *SASES News Flash*

Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences (SASES)

An undergraduate student program of:  
American Society of Agronomy | Crop Science Society of America | Soil Science Society of America

**January 2009**

**Welcome to the *SASES News Flash*, which features important undergraduate activities and deadlines.**

**This issue includes: Committee Chairs | Important Dates | 2008 Annual Meeting  
| Scholarship Info  
Golden Opportunity Scholar Institute | Club News**



Meet your 2008-2009 SASES Officers



Pictured (l to r): Dr. Lori Snyder, Advisor (Purdue Univ.); Samantha Ambrose, Corresponding Secretary (Purdue Univ.); Kimberly Fisher, Recording Secretary (Virginia Tech); Nathan Anderson, President (Iowa State Univ.); Ross Bender, Vice President (Univ. of Wisconsin-River Falls); Angela Guttman, Treasurer (Univ. of Florida)

Incoming advisor: Dana Minihan, Kansas State Univ. followed by Jeffory Hattey, Oklahoma State Univ.

## 2008-2009 Committee Chairs

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Club Poster Contest Chair- Kelly Yunghans, Kansas State Univ.  
Club Poster Contest Advisor- Mary Wiedenhoeft, Iowa State Univ.

Crops Judging Contest Chair- Lauren Lang, Kansas State Univ.  
Crops Judging Contest Advisor- Dale Blevins, Univ. of Missouri

Membership- Nathan Keep, Kansas State Univ.  
Parliamentarian- Jessica Bubert, Univ. of Minnesota

Placement Chair- Kyle Schwarzkopf, Purdue Univ.  
Placement Advisor- Leann Malison, ASA-CSSA-SSSA

Quiz Bowl Co-chair- Michael Reinert, Oklahoma State Univ.  
Quiz Bowl Co-chair- Bryce Payne, Oklahoma State Univ.  
Quiz Bowl Advisor- Jeffory Hattey, Oklahoma State Univ.

Research Symposium Contest Co-chair- Amy Robak, Univ. of Wisconsin, River Falls  
Research Symposium Contest Co-chair- Pending  
Research Symposium Contest Advisor- Rob Rhykerd, Illinois State Univ.

National Collegiate Soils Contest Chair- Bryson Haverkamp, Kansas State Univ.  
National Collegiate Soils Contest Advisor- Joan Davenport, Washington State Univ.-Prosser

Student Activities- Trevor Perkins, Purdue Univ.

Visual Presentation Contest Chair- Justin Brown, Univ. of Minnesota  
Visual Presentation Contest Advisor- Bao-Luo Ma, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada

## Important Dates

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Undergraduate renewals/ new member applications are due ASAP

### February

3 National Student Recognition Program nominations due

17 [Annual Meeting](#) abstract submission site opens

### March

24 [Scholarship](#) applications due

29 [National Collegiate Soils Contest](#), March 29-April 3, Springfield, MO - *schedule posted online*

### April

3-5 SASES Regional Meeting, hosted by Kansas State Univ., Manhattan ([flyer](#))

### May

5 [Annual Meeting](#) abstract submission and final edits due

### July

1 [Annual Meeting](#) registration and housing opens

## 2008 SASES Annual Meeting

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The Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences (SASES) held their three-day annual meeting during the Annual Meetings of ASA, CSSA, and SSSA. The event included day-long tours, competitions, professional development programs, business meetings, and socials. Thank you to all contest participants, committee chairs, past officers, advisors, and judges for a successful meeting this past October in Houston, TX!

# Contest Results

## Club Poster Contest

- 1st Place, Univ. of Arkansas
- 2nd Place, Purdue Univ.
- 3rd Place, Univ. of Wisconsin, River Falls

## Research Symposium Contest -Oral Session

- 1st Place, Ian Leslie, Cal Poly
- 2nd Place tie, Katherine Hurder, Virginia Tech  
Amy Gail Fannon, Virginia Tech

## Research Symposium Contest -Poster Session

- 1st Place Jamie Seeman, Iowa State Univ.
- 2nd Place, Leonardo Rivera, Texas A&M Univ.
- 3rd Place, Satchel Gaddie, Univ. of Missouri

## Speech Contest

- 1st Place, Samantha Ambrose, Purdue Univ.
- 2nd Place, Matthew Vann, Univ. of Florida
- 3rd Place, Jared Crain, Oklahoma State Univ.

## President's Trophy

Univ. of Illinois, Field and Furrow Club



Quizbowl 1st Place, Texas Tech Univ., Heath Reeves, Christopher Griffin, Seth Sowder, and Galen Roberts



Students on tours of Texas agriculture



Student Social at Dave and Busters

# Scholarship Opportunities

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## New Scholarships Support Soil Science Majors

The National Society of Consulting Soil Scientists (NSCSS) is offering two, \$1000 scholarships to promote undergraduate education in the area of soil science. The scholarships will help recruit top quality students into nationally recognized soil science programs and encourage them to pursue a career in the field of professional consulting soil science, helping to meet the various needs and practical applications of this science. Students eligible must have a declared major in soil science or closely related soil science degree program, and have strong interests in science and business, and practical applications of their knowledge and skills. Students selected will be evaluated on their academic excellence, future professional plans, and leadership and other experiences predicting future success. For more information on eligibility requirements and how to apply, go to [www.soils.org/awards](http://www.soils.org/awards). The deadline for applications is March 24.

## Other Scholarships Offered through the Societies

- USB Fellowship promotes graduate education in the area of plant sciences, focusing on soybeans. The fellowship provides a \$25,000 annual stipend, membership in ASA, and a subscription to Agronomy Journal for the duration of the fellowship. Funds for the fellowship are made available by gifts from the United Soybean Board (USB) to the American Society of Agronomy.
- Gerald O. Mott Scholarship recognizes a top-notch graduate student who has completed one year of work leading to a M. S. or Ph.D. degree with any divisional areas of CSSA and who has outstanding potential for leadership. The scholarship is in the amount of \$2,500. Funds for the scholarship are made available by the Agronomic Science Foundation Mott Fund.
- Hank Beachell Future Leader Scholarship is given to an undergraduate student to expand their agricultural knowledge by participating in activities that enhance their university studies. The scholarship is in the amount of \$3,500. Funds for the scholarship are made available by the ASF Beachell Fund.
- Cross Cultural Experience Program provides support to an undergraduate student going on an international summer or semester abroad program. The scholarship is in the amount of \$2,500. Funds for the scholarship are made available by the Agronomic Science Foundation Lewis B. Nelson Fund.

Scholarship and Fellowship applications due by March 24, 2009  
Reference Letters and Final Submission deadline by March 31, 2009  
Scholarship and fellowship descriptions, eligibility requirements, and application can be found at:  
[www.agronomy.org/awards](http://www.agronomy.org/awards)  
[www.crops.org/awards](http://www.crops.org/awards)  
[www.soils.org/awards](http://www.soils.org/awards)

For questions, contact Leann Malison, [lmalison@agronomy.org](mailto:lmalison@agronomy.org), 608-268-4949



# Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute

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## 'Golden Opportunity' Equals Mentors and Financial Support for Undergrads

Here's an equation that makes sense - YOU+ an interest in crop science = opportunities, mentoring, and financial help! The 2009 CSSA Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute will match undergrad students with society professionals during the international annual meetings in Pittsburgh. Students will receive financial support for travel, lodging, registration, and other costs related to attend the annual meetings. Applications are due in April (date TBA). For more information, contact

Leann Malison at [lmalison@agronomy.org](mailto:lmalison@agronomy.org) or 608-268-4949, or visit [www.crops.org/scholars](http://www.crops.org/scholars)

## Club News

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### Purdue University



The Purdue University Agronomy Club held its 9th annual White Elephant Auction this past November. The White Elephant Auction is a charity event where students, professors, and faculty of Purdue University bid on random items entered by club members.

For 2008, 63 guests, including 32 bidders, were present. C.J. Fleenor, a former agronomy club president and licensed auctioneer, called bids. The club was able to raise approximately \$1,000, a club record, for John Romine. John is an agriculture student in the agricultural economics department at Purdue. He was diagnosed with Hodgkins disease in 2005 and has been battling it since. The agronomy club plans to keep this tradition and hopes to increase donations for 2009.

Pictured: Blake Stowers (middle) opens his \$25 surprise gift that was filled with Avon lotions.

### Virginia Tech



For the Virginia Tech Agronomy Club, their annual peanut fundraiser is not only the most successful club venture, but a proud tradition rooted deep in Virginia agriculture. In support of Virginia farmers, they purchase the peanuts in bulk from Wakefield Peanuts of eastern Virginia, a part of the state where the finest peanuts in the country have been grown for centuries. After traveling to pick up the peanuts, the club then forms an assembly line to weigh out and package them into smaller bags for sale. This fundraiser requires much time and organization on the part of all club members, providing an opportunity for the club to spend quality time together and carry on what has become an expected event in the community every fall.

Pictured: Members of the club bag and label the raw peanuts.

## University of Wisconsin-River Falls



The University of Wisconsin-River Falls held its first Crop and Soils Club Trap Shoot during the 2008 Fall semester. Officer team members were thinking of ways to involve more members and decided on this social event. A professor from the Plant and Earth Science Department volunteered to host this event. Participants brought in their own guns and ammunition and the club provided the clay pigeons. In total, six club members participated in the trap shoot. The event was a huge success and the club plans on having another trap shoot next fall.

Pictured from left to right: Ryan Eckert, Brad Hartwig, Kristi Thompson, Mike Weber, Tryston Beyrer.  
Not Pictured: Peter Van Dyk

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*Send submissions and newsflash comments and ideas to Corresponding Secretary [Samantha Ambrose](#).*

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