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Recommended Citation

Southwestern Oklahoma State University, "04-15-2019 SWOSU Biology Students and Chapter Win Awards at Tri Beta" (2019). *THE BARK ARCHIVE 2019*. 101.
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News

15 April, 2019

SWOSU Biology Students and Chapter Win Awards at Tri Beta



SWOSU's

Tri-Beta Chapter was recently awarded Outstanding Chapter for District 1 of the South Central Region of Beta Beta Beta National Biology Honor Society. Accepting were (from left): Theresa Stein, Dani Whiting, Shayla Miller, Brendan Harrison, Ani Gomez, Kade Ezell, Yesica Garcia, Skyler Mills, Amy Hofeld, Emily Bedea, Jennifer Prophet and Jennifer Abshire.

Eleven Southwestern Oklahoma State University biology students recently presented their research findings at the Beta Beta Beta (National Biology Honor Society) South Central Region Convention held in Cedar Hill (TX).

SWOSU's Delta Sigma chapter was recognized as Outstanding Chapter from District 1 of the region, which includes universities from Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

The convention this year was comprised of more than 80 presentations by students representing 20 universities from Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas.

SWOSU students earned individual awards for their poster presentations. Jennifer Abshire of Newalla and Kade Ezell of Yukon each won second place and Emily Bedea of Elk City earned third place.

Abshire's presentation was "*Pseudomonas syringae* motility appendages: roles in surface colonization and survival." Her mentor for the work is Dr. Regina McGrane, assistant professor in the SWOSU Department of Biological Sciences.

Ezell's presentation was "Antimicrobial activity of phytopathogen biosurfactants against human pathogens". His mentor is also Dr. McGrane.

Bedeas presentation was "In-silico analysis and homology modeling of β -carbonic anhydrase from *Streptococcus sanguinis*, an opportunistic pathogen involved in subacute infective endocarditis." Her mentor for the work is Dr. Vijay Somalinga, assistant professor in the SWOSU Department of Biological Sciences.

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