

SWOSU Biology Students Win Top Awards at Tri Beta Regional Convention

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University students (from left) Kassandra Guthmueller of Purcell, Tyler Hardin of Broken Arrow and Melanie Graham of Thomas won awards for their research presentations at the recent regional convention of Beta Beta Beta (Tri Beta), a national biological honor society. By winning first place awards, Graham and Guthmueller qualify for a travel grant to present their research at the 2012 Biennial National Tri Beta Convention in Puerto Rico.

The Tri Beta chapter at SWOSU was awarded the Best Chapter Award for the District One South-Central Region. Tri Beta is a national biological honor society. Representing SWOSU were (front from left): Tyler Hardin, Broken Arrow; Melanie Graham, Thomas; LaKesha Seal, Tulsa; Carissa Fischer, Weatherford; and Kassandra Guthmueller, Purcell. Second row from left-Taylor Baxter, Broken Arrow; faculty Sue Ball and Dr Andrea Holgado; and Erica Benda, Yukon. Third Row from left-Claudia Nkeih and Dr Guneet Kaur, both of Weatherford; and Angela Edwards, Oologah. Fourth row from left—Department of Biological Sciences Administrative Assistant Debbie Flaming and Chair Dr Jody Maness.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University students Melanie Graham of Thomas, Kassandra Guthmueller of Purcell and Tyler Hardin of Broken Arrow won awards for their research presentations at the recent regional convention of Beta Beta Beta (Tri Beta), a national biological honor society.

Graham was selected as the first place winner in the Frank G. Brooks oral presentation competition, while Guthmueller and Hardin were selected as first and second place winners, respectively, in the John C. Johnson poster presentation competition. By winning the first place awards, Graham and Guthmueller qualify for a travel grant to present their research at the 2012 Biennial National Tri Beta Convention in Puerto Rico.

The Tri Beta chapter at SWOSU was also awarded the Best Chapter Award for the District One South-Central Region. Tri-Beta members representing the Delta Sigma chapter of SWOSU were Taylor Baxter, Erica Benda, Angela Edwards, Carissa Fischer, Graham, Guthmueller, Hardin, LaKesha Seals, Claudia Nkeih, Sue Ball, Dr Gunnet Kaur and Dr. Andrea Holgado.

The research presented and awarded at the Tri Beta South-Central Regional Convention was performed under the supervision of Dr. Holgado. Financial support was provided by the National Science Foundation, OK-INBRE and Tri Beta.