

Bergagnini and Gonzalez Awarded AAUW Scholarships

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University students Mackenzie Bergagnini (middle left) of Tonkawa and Delene Gonzalez (middle right) of Hollis have been awarded American Association of University Women (AAUW) Nancy McClain scholarships. With the pair are AAUW members (from left) Dr. Sylvia Esjornson; Vera Kelln-Bullock; Brandi Rizzi; Dr. Lisa Appeddu; Dr. Lori Gwyn; Darla Davenport; Dr. Patsy Parker and Debbie Brown.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University students Mackenzie Bergagnini of Tonkawa and Delene Gonzalez of Hollis have been awarded scholarships from the American Association of University Women chapter in Weatherford.

Both Bergagnini and Gonzalez were presented with a \$300 Nancy McClain Honorary Scholarship. The Weatherford branch awards annual scholarships to female undergraduate SWOSU students who display scholarly and extracurricular excellence plus are in need of financial support.

Bergagnini is a senior chemistry student participating in research under the supervision of Dr. Trevor Ellis. In the summer of 2013, she completed an internship in Bremen, Germany. Bergagnini is a member of the SWOSU Mind Games team and has held leadership positions in the Chemistry Club and Spanish Club. She also volunteers as an English as a second language teacher and was a SWOSU orientation leader. Upon graduation she plans to attend graduate school, obtain a Ph.D. to work in drug development/testing for the treatment of neurological disorders.

Gonzalez is a senior exercise science student currently working two jobs to help pay for living expenses and her education. She is an active member of Weatherford's Church of Christ and volunteers to teach children's classes. Gonzalez had the opportunity to serve on a mission trip in the inner city of Houston (TX) in the spring of 2011. Currently, along with going to classes, she teaches fitness classes and is a member of the academic sorority Gamma Delta Kappa. Gonzalez will be completing an internship this summer in east Texas under the direction of a licensed dietician. She plans on continuing her education and hopes to obtain a Ph.D. in dietetics and research.

AAUW membership is open to all individuals who have completed a college/university degree (associate, bachelor's, master's or doctorate). Current college students are eligible for a free student e-affiliate membership. The AAUW Weatherford branch meets once each month, September through April, to conduct educational, community service and social activities. The organization also hosts the SWOSU Tech Trek summer math & science camp for girls entering the 8th grade.

For more information about AAUW, contact Darla Davenport at 580.774.3071 or at the website: <http://weatherford-ok.aauw.net/>.