

National Council of The Society of
Sigma Gamma Epsilon



NATIONAL HONORARY SOCIETY in the EARTH SCIENCES

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Hello members of Sigma Gamma Epsilon!

I hope you all had an enjoyable and refreshing semester break and are ready to begin the Spring semester, if you haven't already!

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate the award winners from our annual SGE Poster Session at the Denver GSA National Convention this past October. Two participants were awarded the 2022 Austin A. Sartin Award. Aubrey Brown and Annabella Kennedy, both members of the Eta Xi Chapter at St. Lawrence University, performed research on slope stability in the same area of Alaska. Ms. Brown's study was titled "Ground-Truthing a Remote Sensing Landslide Model Using Reaction Wood Presence in Tree Rings Near Glennallen, Alaska" and Ms. Kennedy's poster was titled "Using Reaction Wood in Black Spruce (*Picea mariana*) to Test a Slope-Stability Model in the Glennallen Region, Alaska". We also had two winners for our Charles J. Mankin Best Poster Award. Co-authors Kathryn Baumann and Hannah Bates, both members of the Eta Sigma Chapter at Middle Tennessee State University, received the award for their presentation, "Petrologic Investigation of Metamorphic Rocks at Glade Gap, Chunky Gal Mountain in the Western North Carolina Blue Ridge Mountains". You can see photos of the award recipients on the SGE website (sgearth.org) as well as links to their abstracts. Please consider presenting your research at our next the SGE Poster Session at the National GSA Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this October. You could be one of the next award winners!

Our new National Editor-in-Chief of *The Compass*, Janet Vote (Janet.Vote@utsa.edu), is currently working on the next issue of *The Compass*. We plan to have it ready during the Spring semester. I will join our Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Rick Ford, in encouraging all SGE members to avail themselves of the opportunity to publish their research in our journal.

The Spring semester is award season for SGE. Every chapter is encouraged to submit a recipient for the W.A Tarr Award. Additionally, please review the requirements for the Outstanding Chapter Award and Service Chapter Awards. We only gave out three of these chapter awards last year and, based on the chapter reports made at the last convention, we have many more chapters that could receive one of these awards if they applied. Forms and guidelines for these awards can be found under the "Awards" link in the "Our Community" section of our website.

If you have any questions about your chapter standing, deadlines and the like, please contact Lee Potter at the National Office, 319-505-3391 or potter@SGEearth.org. Of course, you are always welcome to contact me directly (SW-Bennett1@wiu.edu) and I will answer your questions or find someone that can.

I wish you all an enjoyable and successful Spring semester,

Steve Bennett, SGE National President