

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!

We had 28 wonderful submissions to our annual SGE Poster Session at the GSA Connects National Convention in Anaheim this past September. It was hard to judge between these high-quality poster but I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate our award winners. Adrienne Hammontree (Iota Alpha Chapter, Marietta College) won the Austin A. Sartin Award and Katherine Belt (Theta Omega Chapter, Tennessee Tech) won the Charles J. Mankin Award. Look for photos of the winners and a summary of their posters in the next issue of the *The Compass* (sgearth.org/the-compass/). Speaking of *The Compass*, I strongly encourage our winners to submit their research for publication. Of course, we welcome any and all SGE members that are conducting undergraduate research to submit their manuscripts. We recently revamped this peer-reviewed, open-access online journal. Check out our recent issues and think you will be impressed.

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 James C. Walters Outstanding Chapter Award and SGE Chapter Service Awards. I suspect we have many 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.

Look for the information regarding our 47th Biennial Convention that my local chapter (Delta Psi, Western Illinois University) will be hosting at our Quad Cities campus in Moline, Illinois. We will be meeting right next to the mighty Mississippi River and exploring some local geology as part of our Saturday field trip. I hope to see you there!

I'm happy to report that the number of active chapters increased again this year and we are in the process of establishing additional chapters. If your chapter has become inactive please contact me and I can help you reactivate.

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