

# 2019 Student Competition Descriptions

*For more details on a section or division award, please contact the [Community Leader](#) or [Section/Division Chair](#).*

\*CSSA and SSSA will be holding Society-Wide Student Competitions on **Wednesday, November 13**. Each division will select one student to represent their division. The names of those sessions/competitions from which the selection will be made are indicated in red at the end of the division competition description (and in the abstract submission session listing).

*Any monetary awards will be issued by check and mailed after the Annual Meeting.*

## **Agronomy**

### **ASA Community – Applied Soybean Research**

#### **ASA Section: Agronomic Production Systems**

Oral Session: “Applied Soybean Research Oral Session (includes student competition)

The Applied Soybean Research community

(<https://www.agronomy.org/membership/communities/applied-soybean-research>) will sponsor a Graduate Student Oral Competition, which allows students to increase their visibility within the applied soybean research community and participate in professional interactions. All graduate students (MS and PhD) working in applied soybean research are encouraged to participate. Monetary awards will be given for first (\$500), second (\$250) and third place (\$175) winners for two categories: PhD and MS. Interested graduate students should submit abstracts online through the normal abstract submission process and mark that they wish to enter into the graduate student competition. Presenters will be judged by volunteers who are a part of the Applied Soybean Research community based on the quality of their presentation, interpretation and impact of research results, and ability to answer questions based on criteria developed by community leaders. The criteria can be requested from Dr. Josh Copes (jcopies@agcenter.lsu.edu). The winners will be announced at the Applied Soybean Research Community business meeting, if possible, and via email to the community after the annual meeting.

### **ASA Community – Bioenergy Systems**

#### **ASA Section: Agronomic Production Systems**

##### ***The Bioenergy Systems Graduate Student Oral Competition***

Session Description: The Bioenergy Systems Community will sponsor a Graduate Student Oral Competition that is open to all graduate students. Awards will be given for the oral competition, with certificates and cash prizes of \$250, \$200, and \$150 given for first, second, and third place winners, respectively. The outstanding presenters will be recognized during the Community Business Meeting and/or via email to the Community after the annual meeting.

##### ***Bioenergy Systems Graduate Student Poster Competition***

Session Description: The purpose of the Bioenergy Systems Graduate Student Poster Awards Program is to recognize outstanding scientific poster contributions presented by graduate students at the Annual Meetings. Three awards will be presented, First Place award (\$250) and

First Runner-Up (\$200) Second Runner-up (\$150), to the top three scores determined by the judges. The outstanding posters and authors will be recognized during the Community Business Meeting and/or via email to the Community after the annual meeting. A monetary award and a certificate will be presented to each one of the winners.

#### **ASA Community – Organic Management Systems**

##### **ASA Section: Agronomic Production Systems**

**Poster Session:** The Organic Management Systems Community will organize a Graduate Student Poster competition to recognize outstanding poster presentations made by graduate students. All poster presentations given by graduate students in the Community “Poster” session will be eligible for Poster Presentation Awards. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of their presentation, originality of the work, organization and interpretation of the experimental results, and response to questions asked by graduate student poster judges. The judges will be selected by the Community Leader and Vice Leader. A prescribed point system developed by the judges will be used to rank the posters. Three monetary awards along with certificates will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place, assuming a minimum of five graduate students enter the competition and winners are present when awards are handed out, which will be during the Agronomy Production Section business meeting. Those graduate students interested in entering the competition must submit an abstract through the ASA website <https://www.acsmetings.org>, selecting the poster session for the Organic Management Systems Community and noting that you wish to enter the paper in the graduate student competition.

#### **ASA Community – Precision Agriculture Systems**

##### **ASA Section: Agronomic Production Systems**

The purpose of the competitions is to promote the participation and activities of graduate students studying the development or use of precision agriculture technologies or decision support models. Graduate students working on precision agriculture technologies will submit abstracts online through the normal abstract submission process. As recognition of the outstanding work conducted by the students in this area, awards will be given for both the oral and poster competitions. We will have first, second, and third place awards, for the oral and poster sessions for a total of six graduate student awards.

#### **ASA Community – Semi-arid Dryland Cropping Systems**

##### **ASA Section: Agronomic Production Systems**

**Poster Session:** The Semi-arid Dryland Cropping Systems Community will organize a Graduate Student Poster competition to recognize outstanding poster presentations made by graduate students. All poster presentations given by graduate students in the Community “Poster” session will be eligible for Poster Presentation Awards. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of their presentation, originality of the work, organization and interpretation of the experimental results, and response to questions asked by graduate student poster judges. The judges will be selected by the Community Leader and Vice Leader. A prescribed point system developed by the judges will be used to rank the posters. Three monetary awards along with certificates will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place, assuming a minimum of five graduate students enter the competition and winners are present when awards are handed out, which will be during the Agronomy Production Section business meeting. Those graduate students interested in entering the competition must submit an abstract through the ASA website <https://www.acsmetings.org>,

selecting the poster session for the Semi-arid Dryland Cropping Systems Community and noting that you wish to enter the paper in the graduate student competition.

### **ASA Community – Sensor Based Nutrient Management**

#### **ASA Section: Agronomic Production Systems**

The Sensor-Based Nutrient Management Community will sponsor a Graduate Student Oral Competition. Awards will be given for the oral competition, with certificates and cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100 given for first, second, and third place winners, respectively. The competition will be cosponsored by the Precision Agricultural Systems Community, but will be open to all graduate students with appropriate topics. Interested graduate students will submit abstracts online through the normal abstract submission process. The competition will be announced on the ASA web site and through the community e-mail list. The Leaders of the communities will develop and head a judging team comprising a minimum total of four persons to judge the competitions. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, and interpretation of the experimental results, based on criteria that are developed by the judging teams. If time permits, the winners will be announced at the community business meetings.

### **ASA Community – Soil and Water Management Professionals**

#### **ASA Section: Agronomic Production Systems**

The community will sponsor a Graduate Student Poster Competition to recognize professional achievement and to foster opportunities for continued professional development. Abstracts must be submitted through the ASA Agronomic Production Systems Section, selecting within the SWMP Community the poster session with a competition indicated in the title. Note that the paper must be entered into the competition session to be considered. Evaluation criteria will include rationale and objective, research methodology, interpretation of results, contribution to knowledge and clarity of presentation. The top three poster presentations will receive a certificate and a cash award of \$200, \$150 and \$100 for first, second and third place. Recipients will be announced during Agronomic Production Systems business meeting.

### **ASA Community – Airborne and Satellite Remote Sensing**

#### **ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling**

**Graduate Student Oral Competition:** The Airborne and Satellite Remote Sensing Community will sponsor a Graduate Student Oral Competition to recognize the professional and outstanding achievements made by graduate students (MS and PhD) in the topical sessions of the Community. All oral presentations made by graduate students in the Community session "**Airborne and Satellite Remote Sensing General Oral Session**" will be eligible for Oral Presentation Awards. Interested graduate students should submit the abstract through the ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling website, selecting oral in the Community session "Agricultural Remote Sensing Oral" and noting the paper is to be entered into the Graduate Student Competition. Presenters will be judged by volunteers, who are a part of the community. Evaluation criteria will include the quality of the presentation, originality, and importance of the research, interpretation of experimental results, and ability to answer questions. The "Best

Graduate Student Paper” will receive a cash award and a certificate. The graduate student awardees will be announced via email to the entire Community.

### **ASA Community – Evapotranspiration Measurement and Modeling**

#### **ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling**

The Evapotranspiration Measurement and Modeling (EMM) Community will organize “Graduate Student Oral and Poster” competitions to recognize outstanding presentations made by graduate students in the topical sessions of the Community. Abstracts must be submitted through the website <https://www.acsmeetings.org>, selecting either of the aforementioned Community sessions and noting that you wish to enter the paper in the graduate student competition. Judges are to be selected by the Community Leader and Vice Leader. Two monetary awards will be given: one each for “Best Graduate Student Paper” in the Oral and Poster categories. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, and organization and interpretation of the experimental results. Rankings will be according to the prescribed point system developed by the judges. Award value will be decided based on the funding available to the EMM Community. The graduate student awardees will be announced via email to the entire Community.

### **ASA Community – Global Climate Change**

#### **ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling**

The Global Climate Change (GCC) Community will organize "Graduate Student Oral and Poster" competitions to recognize outstanding oral and poster presentations made by graduate students in the topical sessions of the Community. All oral presentations made by graduate students in the Community session "**Global Climate Change General Oral**" will be eligible for Oral Presentation Awards. All poster presentations made by graduate students in the Community session "**Global Climate Change General Poster**" will be eligible for the Poster Presentation Awards. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, and organization and interpretation of the experimental results. Abstracts must be submitted through the website <https://www.acsmeetings.org>, selecting either of the aforementioned Community sessions and noting that you wish to enter the paper in the graduate student competition. Judges are to be selected by the Community Leader and Vice Leader. Rankings will be according to the prescribed point system developed by the judges. Four monetary awards will be given: two each for "Best Graduate Student Paper" in the Oral and Poster categories. Award value will be decided based on the funding available to the GCC Community. Runners-up for each category will be given certificates of recognition. The graduate student awardees will be announced via email to the entire Community.

### **ASA Community – Model Applications in Field Research**

#### **ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling**

The Model Applications in Field Research community will sponsor a Graduate Student Poster Competition to recognize the professional achievement of young scientists and to foster opportunities for continued professional development. Abstracts must be submitted through the ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling website, selecting the competition poster session in the Community and noting the paper is to be entered into the Graduate Student Competition.

Presentations will be judged by individuals appointed by the Community Leader and Vice-Leader. Evaluation criteria (equal weighting) will include rationale and objective, research methodology, interpretation of results, contribution to knowledge and clarity of presentation. The top three poster presentations will receive a certificate and a cash awards for first, second and third place, respectively.

### **ASA Community – Soil-Plant-Water Relations**

#### **ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling**

The Soil-Plant-Water Relations (SPWR) community will sponsor a Graduate Student Poster Competition to recognize the professional achievement of young scientists and to foster opportunities for continued professional development. Abstracts must be submitted through the ASA Section: Climatology and Modeling website, selecting Poster in the Community session “Soil-Plant-Water Relations Poster” and noting that the poster is to be entered into the Graduate Student Competition. Posters will be judged by individuals appointed by the Community Leader and Vice-Leader. Evaluation criteria (equal weighting) will include rationale and objective, research methodology, interpretation of results, contribution to knowledge and clarity of presentation. The top three poster presentations will be recognized at the Community Business Meeting, and will receive a certificate and a cash award.

### **ASA Community – Animal Agriculture and the Environment**

#### **ASA Section: Environmental Quality**

The purpose of the Graduate Student Poster Awards Program of the Animal Agriculture and the Environment Community is to recognize outstanding poster contributions presented by graduate students at the Annual Meetings. Each Session Organizer will prepare a list of all Animal Agriculture and the Environment-affiliated graduate student posters to be judged. Judging will be according to prescribed criteria developed by the Community Awards Committee. Judges are to be selected by the Community Awards Committee. Judges will visit each eligible poster as they are presented, and score each poster. Scores will be summarized and discussed by the Committee to determine award recipients. Three awards will be presented to the top three scores determined by the judges. The outstanding posters and authors will be recognized during the Community Business Meeting and/or via email to the Community after the annual meeting. A monetary award and a certificate will be presented to each one of the winners.

### **ASA Community – Biochar: Agronomic and Environmental Uses**

#### **ASA Section: Environmental Quality**

Poster Session - *Agronomic and Environmental Applications of Biochar Poster (includes student competition)*

The Biochar: Agronomic and Environmental Uses community (<https://www.agronomy.org/membership/communities/biochar-agronomic-and-environmental-uses>) will sponsor a Graduate Poster Competition. All graduate students working with biochar are encouraged to participate. Interested graduate students should submit abstracts online through the normal abstract submission process and mark that they wish to enter into the graduate student competition. Posters will be judged based on the quality of the poster presentation, originality and importance of the research, interpretation of experimental results, and how well the presenter communicates his or her findings based on a 5-minute lightning talk in the Biochar General Oral

Session. The top three posters will be announced at the community business meeting. Winners are expected to be present at the meeting to receive their monetary award and certificate.

### **ASA Community: Nutrients and Environmental Quality**

#### **ASA Section: Environmental Quality**

The Nutrients and Environmental Quality (NEQ) Community will conduct one oral and one poster competition at the annual meeting. A student may participate in either the oral or the poster competition, but not both. Students who participate in sessions that have the NEQ Community designated as the first sponsor are eligible for the competition, but must register during abstract submission in order to be considered for the competition. Presentations in each category will be evaluated by volunteer members of the community. Cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100 will be awarded to the first, second, and third place in each category. Additional honorable awards (\$50) may be awarded. Presentations will be judged based on originality and significance of the research, interpretation and presentation of results, the ability to address questions, and overall quality of presentation. Each presentation will be evaluated by a minimum of three judges. Final results will be summarized and discussed by the community leader, vice-leader, and volunteers. The awards will be announced at the end or immediately after the annual meeting.

### **ASA Community – Soil Carbon and Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

#### **ASA Section: Environmental Quality**

Funds will be provided from the “Program Enhancement Fund” of the community. Students need to submit an abstract online through the normal abstract submission process to one of the eligible sessions designated by the community. The Community Leader will designate the Past Leader or other community member to lead the judging team, composed of members of the community or co-sponsoring community.

#### *Graduate Student Oral Competition*

The Soil Carbon and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Community will sponsor a Graduate Student Oral Competition. Participants will be judged by three judges based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, interpretation of the experimental results, and other criteria that are developed by the judging team. Awards will be given at the community business meeting at the annual meeting with cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100 given for first, second, and third place winners, respectively.

#### *Graduate Student Poster Competition*

Graduate students are welcome to submit a poster and compete for the awards in the Graduate Student Poster Competition organized by the Soil Carbon and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Community. Posters will be judged by three judges based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, interpretation of the results, and visual appeal. Awards will be given at the community business meeting at the annual meeting with cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100 given for first, second, and third place winners, respectively.

### **ASA Community – Cover Crop Management**

### **ASA Section: Land Management and Conservation**

This award will recognize outstanding oral or poster presentations made by graduate students in the Cover Crop Management sessions at the annual meeting. All graduate student presentations will be eligible; students may participate in either the oral or the poster session. Presentations will be judged by three independent reviewers, and will be evaluated based on the quality of the presentation, the originality of the work, and the organization and interpretation of results. Winners will be selected based on the prescribed point system developed by the community. Interested graduate students must submit abstracts before the deadline to the online website, and indicate their interest in the graduate student competition. The top three presentations in the Oral competition will receive a cash award of \$300, \$200, and \$100 for first, second and third place, respectively. The top three posters in the Poster session will receive a cash award of \$200, \$100, \$50. In the event that the number of entrants to either competition is low, the judges and community leaders may reduce the number of awards given. The outstanding presenters will be recognized at the community business meeting and via e-mail after the annual meeting.

### **ASA Community – Soil Health**

#### **ASA Section: Land Management and Conservation**

This is a poster session to encourage students who are doing research in soil health and agroecosystems. Posters will be judged on clarity of work, effective communication of science, and research presented. We encourage you to submit your scientific posters to this session for competitive financial awards. Awards for student poster include First Place \$300 Second Place \$200 Third Place \$100.

## **Crops**

### **Div. C-1 – Crop Breeding and Genetics**

Div. C-1 sponsors a Graduate Student Poster Competition where judging is based on title, clarity, graphics, organization and content, and subject knowledge. Posters should be formatted according to instructions from meeting organizers and include Title, Authors, Introduction, Methods, Results, and Conclusions sections. A photocopy of the poster should also be available. Poster contest winners will be awarded \$500 for the first place winner, \$350 for second place, and \$150 for third place. The student author must be present at their poster to be eligible for competition. Eligible participants must have student status during the 2018-2019 academic years, and the poster must represent their student research. Winners will be announced at the business meeting if possible, or immediately following the annual meeting.

Div. C-1 will also sponsor a student competition that will be conducted during both of the C-1 sponsored symposia, to encourage and foster engagement in the symposia. Each student will have the opportunity to log onto a set of questions that will relate to the presentations. The top three students will be identified and receive CSSA logo prizes.

**\*This session, Crop Breeding and Genetics 5 Minute Rapid Oral and Poster (includes student competition) includes the Society-Wide competition selection.**

### **Div. C-2 – Crop Physiology and Metabolism Graduate Student Oral Competition**

Interested students should submit their abstract to the designated Oral Competition session. Only one submission per student is allowed, and submissions must be received by **June 4, 2019**. A maximum of 15 presentations will be selected for the oral competition, based on the timeliness of submission and quality of the submitted abstracts. Presentations not selected will be moved to the poster session. All abstracts must adhere to the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA requirements available at <https://www.acsmeetings.org/submit/oral>. Presentations will be judged on: 1) justification of the problem or rationale, 2) hypotheses and or objectives, 3) technical merit and experimental design, 4) attractiveness, design of layout, tables, and figures, 5) evaluation and interpretation of results, and 6) overall student knowledge, insight, and ability to answer questions on topic. Detailed guidelines for the competition can be requested from Dr. John Snider ([jlsnider@uga.edu](mailto:jlsnider@uga.edu), Chair of Div. C-2). The top three students in the oral competitions will be recognized with a cash award of \$300, \$200, and \$100 for first, second, and third place. **All students participating in the oral competition session are expected to attend the C-2 Business Meeting.**

These awards to the winning students will be presented during the Business Meeting.

#### **Graduate Student Poster Competition**

Interested students should submit their abstract to the designated Poster Competition session. Only one submission per student is allowed, and submissions must be received by **June 4, 2019**. A maximum of 15 presentations will be selected for the poster competition, based on the quality of the submitted abstracts. Presentations not selected for the competition will be moved to the general poster session.

All abstracts must adhere to the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA requirements available at <https://www.acsmeetings.org/submit/poster>. Presentations will be judged on: 1) justification of the problem or rationale, 2) hypotheses and or objectives, 3) technical merit and experimental design, 4) attractiveness, design of layout, tables, and figures, 5) evaluation and interpretation of results, and 6) overall student knowledge, insight, and ability to answer questions on topic.

Detailed guidelines for the competition can be requested from Dr. John Snider ([jlsnider@uga.edu](mailto:jlsnider@uga.edu), Chair of Div. C-2). The top three students in the poster competitions will be recognized with a cash award of \$300, \$200, and \$100 for first, second, and third place.

**All students participating in the poster competition session are expected to attend the C-2 Business Meeting.**

These awards to the winning students will be presented during the Business Meeting.

**\*The Poster and 5 Minute Rapid-Crop Physiology and Metabolism Oral includes the Society-Wide competition selection.**

#### **Div. C-3 – Crop Ecology, Management and Quality**

The Graduate Student Poster Contest for Division C-3 (Crop Ecology, Management & Quality) at the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX offers students opportunities to increase their visibility within the Society, to be honored by Division C-3 representatives for particularly exemplary posters, and to receive expanded professional interaction plus formal feedback from judges on their posters. The top 3 MS students and the top 3 PhD students in the contest will receive cash awards and be recognized during the Division C-3 Business Meeting.

**\*The Poster and 5 Minute Rapid PhD competition includes the Society-Wide competition selection.**



Graduate students are required to formally enter the competition when submitting their abstract (early submission due May 29; late fee submission deadline June 11). The student must be the lead author of the contest entry. Graduate student contestants do not need to be members of the Crop Science Society of America to participate, but at least one of the co-authors must be a CSSA member. Information presented in the Division C-3 Graduate Student Poster Contest is to be original and unique. If a topic has been used by the author in another presentation at previous scientific meetings, or in a prior publication, additional data must be included to constitute a unique presentation. All posters will be half size (44.5" x 44.5"). Students in the PhD competition will also be required to present a 5-minute Rapid Talk to introduce the topic and present key points, and must register accordingly.

Abstracts are not required to be printed on the poster in order to save space for greater detail in other sections (they will be submitted separately and available to judges prior). Reference citations should be included where appropriate, especially to defend or refute results previously seen in literature (not necessary to create a full literature review in the Introduction section).

The following criteria and point allocation will be used by judges to evaluate the posters:

Poster Content	Points	Criteria
Abstract	20	An informative abstract that is concise, and calls attention to all relevant subject matter in the paper/presentation
Intro./Conclusions	15	Content, clarity, format, and grammar, significance/importance of research
Project Development	15	Rationale, objectives, organization, methods, and application to crop management and ecology
Project Results	15	Balance in quantity and quality of information presented in support of the study's objectives, capability for rapid viewer absorption of essential results, and accompanying grammar and style
Appearance	15	Engaging title, attractive layout, legible font size for all text, well-designed tables and figures, clear and relevant photographs, and logical progression
Physical Presence and Oration	20	Interaction and mannerisms with poster viewers and judges including volume, confidence, enthusiasm, enunciation, and response to questions
5-Minute Rapid Oral (Ph.D. only)	20	Oral presentation to introduce topic and highlight key points

### **Div. C-5 – Turfgrass Science**

Div. C-5 sponsors awards in multiple categories. There are the Graduate Student Poster and Oral Competitions. These provide cash awards to the first place winner in each of several categories. While second and third place finishers may be acknowledged, awards are contingent on available funds. The judging is based on the quality of the science, clarity of presentation, and skill with which the presenters answer questions posed by the judges. The presentations are judged by volunteer judges who are members of Div. C-5. Categories include four poster and four oral

competitions in General Turf Ecology, Golf Course Management (sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America), Turf Breeding (sponsored by the Turfgrass Breeders Association), and Applied Turf/Pest Management (sponsored by the Industry Committee). Awards are announced at the C-5 Business Meeting.

**\*The C-5 representative to the Society-Wide Competition will be selected from the 2018 student competition.**

#### **Div. C-6 – Forage and Grazinglands**

The Robert F Barnes Graduate Education Awards recognize graduate students who make outstanding oral (Ph.D. students only) or poster presentations (MS students only) in Division C-6. Selection as an award recipient will be based on quality of the oral/poster presentation and the contribution of research to the Division's fields of study. Awards for oral presentations will be 1st \$500, 2nd \$250, and 3rd \$100 and for poster presentations: 1st \$500, 2nd \$250, and 3rd \$100. Awards are presented at the C-6 Division business meeting.

**\*The Robert F Barnes oral competition will be used to select the Society-wide competition representative.**

#### **Div. C07 – Genomics, Molecular Genetics and Biotechnology**

The Genomics, Molecular Genetics and Biotechnology division will sponsor a graduate student **virtual oral** presentation competition. All graduate students, both MS and PhD levels, working in the appropriate research area are encouraged to participate. Interested graduate students should submit both an abstract and a link to an uploaded youtube 5 min rapid oral presentation, following the [CSSA rapid presentation guidelines](#) of their work by September 1. Presentations will be assessed based on the agricultural importance of the research, its originality and effectiveness of the presentation. Judges' decisions of the top students will be final. The winner of the virtual presentation will be contacted at least one month prior to the Crop Science meeting so the winner student can register and attend the CSSA Annual Meeting, Nov. 10-13, San Antonio, TX. The winning student is expected to be present at the Crop Science meeting to participate in the society-wide student competition and to receive their monetary award and certificate. Note that the society-wide competition will include both a 5 minute rapid oral and poster presentation. The division will provide \$400 to offset the registration and travel expenses for the student representative.

**\*This competition will serve as the 2019 Society-Wide competition selection.**

#### **Div. C08 – Plant Genetic Resources**

**\*The Poster and 5 Minute Rapid--Plant Genetic Resources Oral session will include the student competition, from which one student will be selected to participate in the Society-Wide competition.**

#### **Div. C09 – Biomedical, Health-Beneficial and Nutritionally Enhanced Plants**

To encourage student participation and provide students with opportunities to develop presentation skills, C-09 is sponsoring a student poster/rapid oral presentation contest. Participants must be enrolled as a student at the time of a meeting, present a poster in the C-09 poster session, and present a rapid oral presentation about their poster in the C-09 session. The past division chair will coordinate the judging committee, and this committee will rank the competitors based on the poster presentation (25%), the oral presentation (25%), scientific merit

of their work (25%), and their oral presentation of the poster to judges in the poster session (25%). The top presenter will be awarded \$250, second place will be awarded \$100, and third place will be awarded \$50. Winners will be announced at the business meeting.

**\*This competition will serve as the Society-Wide competition selection.**

## **Soils**

### **SSSA Division – Education and Outreach**

**\*Poster and 5 Minute Rapid – Soil Education and Outreach session will include the student competition and Society-Wide student competition selection.**

### **SSSA Division - Forest, Range and Wildland Soils**

Forest, Range, and Wildland Soils strives to make graduate students feel welcomed and included in our division. We value and recognize their work as peers and encourage them to present their work during regularly scheduled sessions where they can compete for best presentation awards along with the rest of the community. In addition, several students each year will be recognized with the Robert J. Luxmoore Graduate Student Travel Award to help defray the expenses of attending the meeting to present their research. Applications are due each year on August 1 and will be made available through the division email distribution list.

**\*Student competitions within the general session and topical sessions will be used to select the division representative to the Society-Wide competition.**

### **SSSA Division – Nutrient Management and Soil and Plant Analysis**

#### **SSSA Division – Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition**

These divisions will cosponsor Graduate Student 5-minute Oral and Poster Competitions. Topics may include any aspect of Soil Fertility, Plant Nutrition, Nutrient Management, or Soil and Plant Analysis. Division Chairs will group entries by degree level (MS vs PhD). Cash prizes will be given, with an award of \$400 for first place in each session, and progressively smaller cash awards for lower places. The number of places awarded a cash prize and the dollar amount of those prizes will be determined by the Division Chairs based on the number of sessions and the total amount of prize money available. Companies conducting business in areas related to these divisions will donate the money used for cash prizes. The competition will be announced through the division email lists. Graduate students should enter with a 5-minute Oral and Poster Competition. Interested graduate students will submit abstracts online to the Graduate Student 5-minute Oral and Poster competition session through the normal abstract submission process. In order to be eligible for the competitions the student must have listed either Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition or Nutrient Management and Soil and Plant Analysis as their division of primary interest in their membership. The Past Chairs of the divisions will develop and head a judging team or teams. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, and interpretation of the experimental results. Winners will be announced either at the Division business meeting or at the Walsh Lectureship at the annual meeting.

**\*The Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition Division will make their Society-Wide competition selection from the Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition PhD Student Poster and 5 Minute Rapid Talk Competition.**

**\*\*The Nutrient Management & Soil & Plant Analysis Division will make their Society-Wide competition selection from the M.S. Student Poster and 5 minute Rapid Talk Competition.**

### **SSSA Division – Pedology**

The Pedology Division presents awards each year for outstanding graduate student oral and poster presentations, with cash prizes of \$200, \$100 and \$50 and certificates from the Soil Science Society of America given for first, second, and third place winners, respectively, in each category. All graduate students presenting papers in Pedology sessions are eligible for these awards. Presentations are judged on scientific content, style and clarity, data synthesis, and knowledge of topic. Winners are chosen by a committee made up of Pedology members and are announced initially through the Pedology group e-mail and formally through the CSA News.

**\*The Poster and 5 Minute Rapid Oral Competition will include the selection for the Society-Wide Student Competition.**

### **SSSA Division – Soil and Water Management and Conservation**

*Graduate Student competition: BEST Oral presentation.*

Awards will be given for an oral competition event at the annual meeting, with cash prizes of \$200, \$150, and \$100 given for first, second, and third place winners, respectively. Funds will be provided from the 'Program Enhancement Fund' of the division. To enroll in the competition, a graduate student will submit an abstract online through the normal abstract submission process to a topic sessions designated by the division. Presentations will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, and interpretation of the experimental results.

*Graduate Student competition: BEST Poster presentation*

Awards will be given for a poster competition event at the annual meeting, with cash prizes of \$200, \$150, and \$100 given for first, second, and third place winners, respectively. To enroll in the competition, a graduate student will submit an abstract online through the normal abstract submission process to one of the eligible topic sessions designated by the division. Posters will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, and interpretation of the experimental results.

Winners will be announced during Soil and Water management and Conservation Division business meeting.

**\*The Soil and Water Management and Conservation General Oral II, includes the Society-Wide competition selection.**

### **SAWMAC Graduate Student Award**

The SWMC Graduate Student Award is presented each year to a graduate student whose thesis research and graduate responsibilities utilize creative approaches to gain understanding and develop solutions for soil and water conservation and management problems. The recipient's research must be in soil and water management and conservation. The \$350 award is designed to assist the student with travel expenses associated with attending the annual SSSA meeting. The recipient will be recognized at the Division Business Meeting.

To apply, please send: 1) one-page summary of current thesis research, 2) one-page CV, 3) transcript from current graduate institution, and 4) reference letter from current major professor/advisor.

Nomination or application packages are due to the Award Committee Chair by May 31. The requested materials should be sent to:

Dr. Humberto Blanco (hblanco2@unl.edu), 367 Keim Hall, Department of Agronomy and Horticulture, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-091; Tel: 402 472 1510; Fax: 402 472 7904

### **SSSA Division – Soil Biology and Biochemistry**

Each year, the Soil Biology and Biochemistry Division sponsors a Graduate Student Poster Competition to recognize outstanding research presentations. Cash awards are given for first, second and third place winners, and are kindly contributed by our sponsor. Posters are judged based on 1) the visual quality of the presentation as well as the presenter's oral summary and ability to answer questions, 2) originality and importance of the study, and 3) interpretation of experimental results and conclusions reached. This year, the competition will consist of poster presentations, coupled with 5-minute rapid presentations. Oral presentations should be supported by three slides that introduces the main points of the poster. Divisional winners are announced at the Francis Clark Lecture and division business meeting. All students are encouraged to attend the business meeting to congratulate their peers, and to learn more about the Soil Biology and Biochemistry Division and Society functions.

**\* The Poster and 5 Minute Rapid--Soil Biology and Biochemistry Oral (includes student competition) session will be used to select the student to advance to the Society-Wide competition.**

### **SSSA Division – Soil Chemistry**

The "Soil Chemistry Student Oral and Poster Presentation" Awards will be made to recognize outstanding oral and poster presentations by students in Soil Chemistry sessions at the SSSA annual meeting. Six monetary awards will be given that recognize first, second and third place presentations in both the oral and poster categories. To be included in this competition, abstracts must be submitted through the meeting website, selecting the Soil Chemistry Division as the preferred division and noting that you wish to enter the paper in the student competition. The presenting author for both oral and poster categories must be a student at the time of the annual meeting.

For presentation awards, The Soil Chemistry Division Student Awards Committee will form a judging team of judges from the Division membership. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, interpretation of the experimental results and the contribution of research to the Division' fields of study, based on criteria developed by the judging team.

Winners of the presentation awards will receive Certificates and monetary awards for first, second and third places, respectively in both categories. Outstanding presentations and conveners will be recognized during the Soil Chemistry Business meeting, if possible, and via email to the Division after the annual meeting. A short article about the awards recipients will be sent to CSA News and posted on soils.org.

The student awards committee can elect to change the number of the awards, or may defer the giving of awards if insufficient funds are available. The committee may also elect to utilize available funds from the "Program Enhancement Funds" of the Soil Chemistry Division.

\*Students who place in the top three of the current year's oral and poster Soil Chemistry Division's competitions will be considered (based on ranking, availability, and eligibility) to be the division's representative to the next year's SSSA Society-Wide Student Competition. Only one student will be selected to represent the division.

### **SSSA Division – Soil Mineralogy**

There are two separate Joe B. and Martha J. Dixon Soil Mineralogy Awards available each year for students. The first award is presented for the best oral or poster presentation by a student submitted to and presented in the Soil Mineralogy Division at the Annual Meeting.

These presentations are required to address some aspect of soil mineralogy. Papers submitted to any other Division than the Soil Mineralogy Division are not eligible for the Dixon Award. This award and check for \$500 are issued following the annual meetings. The second Dixon Award is a travel grant for \$500 to assist a student studying soil mineralogy in attending the annual meeting. To apply for this award, the student must be enrolled in a graduate program and studying some aspect of soil mineralogy. Preference for this award is also given to students from Latin America and South America to encourage the development of research collaborations between scientists from the United States and these areas. Dr. Dixon has worked extensively in these areas during his career and developed many collaborative research partnerships that continue to this day. This award and check for \$500 are issued following the annual meeting.

\*This session, Poster and 5 Minute Rapid--New Developments in Soil Mineral Identification, Modeling, and Interpretation Oral (includes student competition), includes the Society-Wide Competition selection.

### **SSSA Division – Soil Physics and Hydrology**

Soil Physics and Hydrology will hold its “Poster and 5 Minute Rapid--Soil Physics and Hydrology Oral (includes student competition)” session comprised of 3-minute talks plus 2 minutes of questions to be linked with the Student Poster Competition. Combined lightning oral and poster presentations will be evaluated by judges selected by the Soil Physics Division Executive Committee. Guidelines for high-quality posters can be found on the abstract submission website. Oral presentations are limited to *two slides only* with no animations. To be included in this competition, abstracts must be submitted through the meeting website, selecting the Soil Physics and Hydrology Division as the preferred division and submitting to the session titled “Poster and 5 Minute Rapid--Soil Physics and Hydrology Oral (includes student competition)”. The lead author on the abstract and presenting author must be a graduate or undergraduate student at the time of the annual meeting. The top 3 students will receive cash awards and will be recognized during the Soil Physics and Hydrology Division business meeting, via email to the Division, and in a short article to CSA News.

\*The Soil Physics and Hydrology 5 minute oral and poster presentation will be used for the Society-Wide Student Competition selection.

### **SSSA Division – Soil Physics and Hydrology: Robert Luxmoore Student Travel Award**

The Robert Luxmoore Student Travel Award is designed to support travel of students to the Annual Meeting of the Soil Science Society of America. This award is supported by a generous bequest made by Robert Luxmoore to the Soil Physics Mentoring Fund, which has been established through the Agronomic Science Foundation and is administered by the Soil Science

Society of America. Two \$750 awards will be given to undergraduate or graduate students as travel support. Details on application procedures and deadlines can be found at: <https://www.soils.org/membership/divisions/soil-physics-and-hydrology/robert-luxmoore-travel-award>.

### **SSSA Division – Soils and Environmental Quality Graduate Student Award**

The Soils and Environmental Quality Division will hold a graduate student competition for both oral and poster presentations. Awards will be made to outstanding graduate students who present at the SSSA annual meeting in the Soils and Environmental Quality Division. Six monetary awards will be made to students awarded first, second, and third place in the oral and poster categories. To be included in the competition, authors must submit an abstract through the ACS website and select the Soils and Environmental Quality Division. The presenting author must be present at the annual meeting. The Division will form a team of three to five judges. Presenters will be judged on the quality of the presentation, originality of the work, interpretation of the experimental results, and research impacts to soil and environmental quality problems. Presentation winners will receive certificates and monetary awards of \$200, \$150, and \$100 for first, second, and third places in either category. Outstanding presentations will be recognized during the Business Meeting (if possible), and via email following the annual meeting. The Division Chair reserves the right to change the number and amount of the awards (for instance, in the event of a tie). Funds will be provided from the “Program Enhancement Funds” of the Soils and Environmental Quality Division.

*\*The Society-wide competition selection will be from one of the following: 5 Minute Rapid--Soils and Environmental Quality Oral, Soils and Environmental Quality General Poster, Poster and 5 Minute Rapid--Conservation Practices That Improve Water Quality Outcomes Oral (includes student competition), or the Soil-Based Wastewater Treatment: Impacts and Mechanisms Poster (includes student competition).*

### **SSSA Division – Urban and Anthropogenic Soils**

The Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Division will hold a graduate student competition for both oral and poster presentations. Awards will be made to recognize outstanding oral and poster presentations by students in Urban and Anthropogenic Soil sessions at the SSSA annual meetings. Two monetary awards will be given that recognize first and second place presentations by graduate students. Students may submit abstracts into any of the general sessions or regular topic sessions hosted by the division. To be included in this competition, abstracts must be submitted through the society website, selecting the Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Division as the preferred division and noting that you wish to enter the paper in the student competition. The presenting author for both oral and poster categories must be a student at the time of the annual meeting.

The Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Division Executive Committee will appoint a Graduate Competition Committee Chair each year who will form a judging team from the Division membership. Presenters will be judged based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, interpretation of the experimental results and the contribution of research to the Division’s fields of study, based on criteria developed by the judging team. The executive committee can elect to change the number and amount of the awards, or may defer the giving of awards if

insufficient funds are available. The committee may also elect to utilize available funds from the “Program Enhancement Funds” of the Division.

Winners will receive certificates or other official recognition and monetary awards divided among first and second place winners as determined by the Graduate Competition Committee Chair. Outstanding presentations will be recognized during the Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Business meeting, if possible, and via email to the Division after the annual meeting.

**\*The Poster and 5 Minute Rapid – Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Oral will be used for the Society-Wide Competition selection.**

### **SSSA Division – Wetland Soils**

Awards will be made to recognize outstanding research presentations by undergraduate and graduate students in Wetland Soils Division. Starting at the 2019 SSSA meeting in San Diego, all student competitions will utilize a 5-minute rapid oral presentation coupled with a traditional poster presentation. Multiple monetary awards will recognize student contributions; awards amounts and the number of awards will be determined based upon the availability of funds. The winners will be recognized during the Wetland Soils Business Meeting and will advance to the society wide competition also utilizing the 5-minute oral plus poster format. Presentations will be evaluated by volunteer judges from the Division based on the quality of presentation, originality of the work, interpretation of the experimental results, and the speaker’s responses to questions. To be included in this competition, abstracts need to be submitted through the SSSA website, selecting Wetland Soils as the preferred division and selecting the option entitled "Poster and 5 Minute Rapid--Wetland Soils Oral (includes student competition)". All students working in Wetland Soils are encouraged to participate.

**\*The winner of the 5 Minute Rapid Oral and Poster session will advance to the Society Wide Competition also utilizing the 5-minute oral plus poster format.**

## **Societies**

### **ACS528 - Diversity Student Poster Competition**

The poster competition is open to all undergraduate and graduate students from under-represented groups. Posters in this competition should ALSO be submitted to a session through the formal abstract system. Poster abstracts must be submitted to the appropriate session within ASA, CSSA or SSSA by the deadline AND to the ACS528 Committee contact person Jean McLain ([mclainj@email.arizona.edu](mailto:mclainj@email.arizona.edu)), by **June 11, 2019**. Acknowledgment of receipt from the Diversity Committee indicates successful abstract submission and inclusion in the Diversity Poster Competition. Winners will be recognized during the Gateway Scholars Program during the Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX. Winners will receive certificates and monetary awards of \$300, \$250, and \$200 for first, second and third places, respectively. Completed posters must be received electronically by the ACS528 Committee no later than November 1, 2019 for full consideration.