Student & Career Activities

Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute

Do you know outstanding students who are interested in agronomy, crop science, or soil science and are looking to develop their professional networks? If so, take advantage of the 2013 Golden Opportunity Scholars Program, which matches undergraduate students with a mentor at the Annual Meetings in Tampa, FL. Student scholars will receive financial support for travel, lodging, registration, and other costs related to attending the meetings.

Created in 2006, this professional development program is aimed at encouraging students to enroll in agronomy, crop science, and soil science related programs, with the intent of having them become the next generation of leaders and develop the necessary workforce to sustain these professions. Students from all over the world will be selected. Benefits include:

- Engaging in one-on-one activities with mentors
- Listening to presentations from high-profile scientists
- Gaining exposure to many disciplines in agronomy, crops, and soils
- Attending undergraduate student programs
- Being recognized during ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Awards Programs
- Participating in a year-round mentoring network

Undergraduate students can apply by following directions found at www.goldenopportunityscholars.org. The deadline to send applications is 9 Apr. 2013.

Golden Opportunity Mentors

The Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute is seeking mentors who have something to pass on to the next generation of scientists. ASA, CSSA, and SSSA members are encouraged to volunteer as mentors for the Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute during the Annual Meetings in Tampa. Mentors benefit from the mentors’ expertise and students and mentors benefit by knowing they are supporting the future of the professions. Mentors should attend the Annual Meetings and take advantage of introducing their scholars to the many lectureships, and symposia available.

Members can apply by completing the application found at www.goldenopportunityscholars.org. The deadline to send applications is 9 Apr. 2012.

Want to contribute to this program and support young scientists? Contact Alexander Barton at 608-273-8095 or abarton@sciencesocieties.org. For information about the program and application procedures, contact Emily Fuger at efuger@sciencesocieties.org or 608-268-4949.

Graduate Student Scholarships and Fellowships

Graduate Students: Be sure to look into scholarships and fellowships for 2013. Nominations are due 9 Apr. 2013. Explore the awards sites1 for more information.

Francis and Evelyn Clark Soil Biology Scholarship—recognizes a student working in the field of soil biology, biochemistry, or microbial ecology: $1,000.

Gerald O. Mott Scholarship for Meritorious Graduate Students in Crop Science—recognizes outstanding students in crop science: four $2,500 awards or two $5,000 awards.

United Soybean Board Fellowship—the fellowship is offered to an outstanding student pursuing a doctoral degree in plant sciences, focusing on soybeans: $25,000 annual stipend up to four years.