2013 SSSSA Award & Scholarship Recipients

**GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS**

**JEANA BANE**

Jeana Bane is a junior at the University of Missouri in the Plant Science department. She’s majoring in crop management with a minor in Agricultural Economics.

She grew up working on a small farm with a variety of crops and produce grown. Today, she continues to study and work in the Crop Physiology Lab under Dr. Felix Fritschi. There she has worked with many different trials of corn, soybean, sorghum, switch grass, and other crops.

Jeana is a member of the MU Agronomy Club serving as secretary for the past year, as well as a member of the SASES chapter. She is also an active volunteer and is involved with other campus organizations.

Her goal is to help improve large scale farming as well as small family farming in a variety of ways. Jeana plans to continue her education in graduate school after completing her bachelors in December 2014.

**JORDAN BEEHLER**

Jordan Beehler is a student at Oklahoma State University. She is majoring in Environmental Science with a minor in soil science. Jordan is a junior and plans on graduating in May 2015.

Her current undergraduate research focuses on soil carbon storage on the decadal time scale and how it correlates to many other variables, including soil physical properties and weather, at approximately 120 sites in Oklahoma. Jordan works as a research assistant in Soil Physics with Dr. Tyson Ochsner, Oklahoma State Plant & Soil Sciences Department.

She has served in leadership positions in the OSU Student Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society, as well as the OSU Environmental Science Club. She also volunteers with the Oklahoma Conservation Commission's Blue Thumb, a statewide stream-monitoring program.

Jordan plans on going to graduate school for natural resource management. Her goal is to work for the National Park Service.

**ANSILTA ZULIMA DE LUCA-WESTRATTE**

Ansilta De Luca-Weststrate is a Park Scholar at North Carolina State University. She is majoring in Sustainable Agriculture and plans on graduating in May 2014. Her study focuses on sustainable soil management, food security, and service learning. She has worked at a number of community gardens teaching soil science and nutrition classes. She also volunteers with the Farmer's Market on campus to get students more involved with the local food initiative in the area. Ansilta is very involved in her community for a non-profit that provides outreach to un-documented Latino families. She plans on going to graduate school in Development and Natural Resource Conservation, then return to Brazil where she plans on conducting research with rural farmers of the Amazon and teaching at a local University.

**EMILY E. DELOREAN**

Emily Delorean is a senior at Colorado State University. She is studying Soil and Crop Sciences with a concentration in Biotechnology, Genetics, and Breeding. Emily has been involved in nitrogen volatilization research at the USDA with Dr. Halvorson and Dr. Ron Follett. She has also been a Golden Opportunity Scholar for the past two years. Emily plans on going to graduate school for natural resource management. Her goal is to work for Dr. Kevin Bradley in the weed science lab assisting graduate students with their research. In 2011 he interned with Monsanto Corn Breeding with responsibilities to conduct and present research projects, sell plots, attending to service calls, and assisting at field meetings. After graduation Matthew plans to pursue a masters degree in the field of plant science. He would like to express his appreciation to everyone involved in the scholarship and is elated to receive such a prestigious award.