

2018 NCB-ESA Executive Committee Meeting
19 March 2018, Madison, WI
Student Awards Committee Report
 Written by: Adam Varenhorst (South Dakota State University)

Membership

Role	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Location	Email	Term
Chair	Adam	Varenhorst	South Dakota State University	Brookings, SD	adam.varenhorst@sdstate.edu	2017-2019
Member	Chris	Philips	University of Minnesota	Grand Rapids, MN	cphilips@umn.edu	2016-2018
Member	Matt	Grieshop	Michigan State University	East Lansing, MI	grieshop@msu.edu	2016-2018
Member	Amit	Sethi	DuPont Pioneer	Johnston, IA	amit.sethi@pioneer.com	2016-2019
Member	Mark	Asplen	Metropolitan State University	St. Paul, MN	Mark.Asplen@metrostate.edu	2017-2019
Member	Mike	McCarville	Bayer CropScience	Omaha, NE	michael.mccarville@bayer.com	2018-2020
Member	Amanda	Bachmann	South Dakota State University	Pierre, SD	amanda.bachmann@sdstate.edu	2018-2020
Student Member	Edwin	Benkert	University of Minnesota	St. Paul, MN	'benke017@umn.edu	2017-2018

NCB-ESA Graduate Student Awards

- Comstock Award
 - 10 applicants via the ESA website (1 additional inquiry)
 - Letters of support were uploaded online, however, many were also sent to the chair and previous chair.
 - Scores were compiled and the winner selected
 - Winner: Rachael Sitz, Colorado State University
- Graduate Student Scholarship
 - 9 applicants via the ESA website
 - Letters of support were uploaded online, however, many were also sent to the chair and previous chair.
 - Scores were compiled and the winner selected
 - Winner: Kaitlin Chapman, University of Nebraska

Several concerns were voiced by committee members that at the time award submission were due three students had not renewed their memberships. This was resolved, however, the deadline for submissions and renewing memberships differ by approximately a month and may require policy to ensure that students are removed from the competition while they may be waiting for a paycheck to pay for their membership fees.

In addition, two members were didn't participate in the judging of either award. Those members are marked in red in the above table.

NCB-ESA meeting – Student Competition

- Judges = 33 judges; 61 10-minute talks across 7 sessions, 34 posters across 4 sessions.
- We used the same poster and 10-minute talk evaluation forms that were used last year and were used at the national meeting (accessible online on the meeting website).
- A Head Judge was designated and asked to fill out a consensus list of winners (First Place, second place and third place) in order to speed up the process of creating the presentation for the awards ceremony and writing checks.
- All judges will be given a judging packet (with judging guidelines, relevant abstracts, and evaluation forms).
- Having attendees indicate willingness to volunteer for judging at time of registering for meeting was a great help in getting enough judges. We have judges for all sessions and have plenty of back-up judges.