



Student Conclave Newsletter

Winter 2016

Get Ready for Corpus Christi

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The 2016 annual meeting for the Society for Range Management is right around the corner, taking place in Corpus Christi, Texas from January 31st to February 4th. In honor of the meeting this edition of the newsletter is aimed to help give you the best student experience possible.

This year's theme is "Rangelands and Wildlife" and will consist of tours, symposiums, and workshops focused on the relationship between wildlife and they habitat in which they occupy. There will also be plenty of information and workshops focused on the newest developments within the rangeland management field that are not strictly wildlife related.

The meeting will also have a trade show that is made up of an auction, product booths, poster sessions, and student chapter displays.

For more information and scheduling of events, presentations, and competitions please refer to the pre-convention trail boss linked here: <http://rangelands.org/srm2016/assets/pre-convention-trail-boss.pdf>



Student Events

Student Conclave Mixer
Sunday, January 31st at 5pm

The mixer is the first conclave event and provides an excellent opportunity to meet and get to know your fellow students from different universities as well as learn about what student conclave has to offer.

Student Conclave Business Meeting
Tuesday, February 2nd at 12pm

The business meeting is another good opportunity for students to meet each other as well as professionals. There will also be two guest speakers at the meeting which include Jack Alexander and Jenny Pluhar. The Business meeting also includes an election where students in attendance will choose the next generation of student conclave board members.



Tapping the top
Monday, February 1st at 4pm

Tapping the top is an informal mixer designed to familiarize students with top professionals in the field. It provides an opportunity for students to converse and network with people who have plentiful insight in what you can expect after school and what you can do to ensure a fruitful career.

Bay Tour, Dinner, and Dance
Tuesday, February 2nd at 4pm

We have booked a private charter boat to give us a tour of the Corpus Christi bay. Afterwards there will be a dinner social to fill you up before the annual dance. We are working on coordinating with the young professional conclave and having them join us.

Award Ceremony
Wednesday, February 3rd at 12:30pm

The award ceremony is where the winners and top scorers of each competition will be honored. SRM awards will also be presented during this time.

Student Competitions

The Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME)
Monday, February 1st at 8am

URME is an exam wherein a student's knowledge of the principles of rangeland management practices and ecology are assessed. This is typically the largest contest of the meeting and typically consists of sections including: range ecology, grazing management, range improvement, range regions, inventory and analysis, and multiple use. There are awards for the top five teams and individuals and scores within the top 10th percentile become eligible as a certified practitioner of range management (CPRM).

Plant ID
Tuesday, February 2nd at 8am

The plant identification competition is time honored traditions where students are tasked to identify 100 of the 200 plus plants in Stubbendieck's book North American Wildland plants. The specimen provided could be an entire plant or simply a solitary spikelet. There will be a designated plant ID study room where specimens can be viewed.

Rangeland Cup
Tuesday, February 2nd at 1pm

The rangeland cup is a competition where a team from a university researches an issue regarding rangeland management and presents their findings at the poster session during the tradeshow. This year's topic involves finding a way to use social media to educate the general public on management issues.



Extemporaneous Speaking
Monday, February 1st at 1pm

A student is assigned three topics and chooses one. They then have two and a half hours to use any resource at their disposal to prepare a five minute presentation on the topic.

Career Opportunities

Most college students have one large question on their mind: What am I going to do when I graduate? Luckily, SRM provides access to plenty of employment opportunities.

On the Sunday of the meeting there will be a job fair lasting nearly all day and an employment workshop accompanying it at 1pm. The employment workshop provides a great opportunity to learn how to search for range jobs and what you can do to increase your chances of being hired. Topics to be covered range all the way from resume's to interviews.

If you believe you are ready to seek a job or internship the job fair will consist of employers looking for someone like you! This year the United States Forest Service has been authorized to hire students on the spot under the pathways program (both for students and recent graduates). Make sure you come prepared with your credentials and a positive attitude or become prepared through the employment workshop.

