2021 Fall Newsletter
Call for Paper Titles and Award Nominations

Southern Region
American Society for Horticultural Science

In This Issue  page
About the 2022 Meetings        1
Message from the President     1
Schedule of the Meeting        2
Where to Get Forms             2
Southern Region Dues           2
Early Bird Hotel Registration  2
SAAS Web Site                  2
Call for Paper Titles–Sections 3
Call for Paper Titles–Student  4
Competition                    5
Working Group Sessions         6
Call for Nominations for Student Awards  6
Call for Nominations for Member Award  7
2020-22 Officers and Chairs   9

Message From the President

It is great to know that we are making plans to resume our SRASHS Annual Meeting for 2022. It is exciting to be able to hold this next meeting in February in New Orleans. While any visit to New Orleans means a unique entertainment atmosphere, we will also be visiting the city during the Carnival season which will be sure to bring some added interest. We are currently planning for this meeting to be held in person along with SAAS. However, if for some reason SAAS decides not to meet in person, we will proceed with a virtual conference. We know virtual conferences can still be effective, and we will have the support of ASHS to host a successful virtual conference if necessary.

Along with cancelling our 2021 meeting, we also postponed elections for officers, chairs, and committee members. That means our chairs held on to their positions for an extra year. We made that decision to allow them to fulfill their office at the next meeting. We did feel like it was important, however, not to cancel the awards portion of the meeting. So, in February of this year, we did hold a virtual awards ceremony to recognize those individuals.

I encourage you to make plans to attend the upcoming meeting. It will provide a way to make those much needed reconnections with colleagues. And encourage your students to make plans to present their research in one of the student competitions. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again, and I trust that through your participation, we will continue the good attendance and participation at this meeting that we have enjoyed in years past.

About the New Orleans Meetings
At this time, SAAS is proceeding with plans to hold face-to-face meeting in New Orleans, L.A. Thus, SRASHS is proceeding with plans also. If Covid causes the meetings to be cancelled, the Executive Committee decided that we would proceed with some type virtual conference. Hence, we will proceed with calling for paper and poster titles and awards.

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Message from the President
Schedule of the Meeting
Where to Get Forms
Southern Region Dues
Early Bird Hotel Registration
SAAS Web Site
Call for Paper Titles–Sections
Call for Paper Titles–Student
Competition
Working Group Sessions
Call for Nominations for Student Awards
Call for Nominations for Member Award
2020-22 Officers and Chairs

87th Year
Southern Region
American Society for Horticultural Science
103rd Year
Horticulture Section
Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists
2022 Annual Conference
February 11-13, 2022
New Orleans, Louisiana

About the New Orleans Meetings
At this time, SAAS is proceeding with plans to hold face-to-face meeting in New Orleans, L.A. Thus, SRASHS is proceeding with plans also. If Covid causes the meetings to be cancelled, the Executive Committee decided that we would proceed with some type virtual conference. Hence, we will proceed with calling for paper and poster titles and awards.
**Schedule of the Meetings**

The general schedule of the meetings will be:

**Friday**
- Working Group Meetings
- Administrators Meetings
- ACB Club Share and tour
- Executive Committee Meeting

**Saturday**
- Poster session set-up and viewing
- ACB judging contest
- Working Group Meetings
- Extension, Education & overflow Sections
- Edmund, Childers, Barham and Poster Judging competitions
- SAAS Board Meeting

**Sunday**
- Poster session and viewing
- ACB Business meeting & officer election
- Commodity Section meetings.
- Business Meeting
- Super Bowl Party if you hang around

**Forms – Where to Get**

The Southern Region web site: [http://srashs.org/Forms/forms.html](http://srashs.org/Forms/forms.html)
- ACB Awards Nomination Forms
- Outstanding Graduate Student Award Nomination form
- Member Awards Nomination Forms
- Submit Paper Titles & Instructions
- Abstract Preparation Instructions
- Instructions to Section Chairs
- Submit Directory Information
- Instructions to Judges

**Southern Region Dues**

ASHS Headquarters collects and manages dues for the Southern Region. It is recommended to pay your dues with your yearly ASHS membership. If you are not a member of National ASHS, you can pay your dues through the ASHS Online Store at [https://ashs.org/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=2463036](https://ashs.org/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=2463036) or at the annual meetings. Dues are $30. Notice: Dues must be paid to be elected to an office or to receive an award.

**Early Bird Hotel Information and Reservations**

This is a very reasonable rate for a hotel directly in the French Quarter on Canal Street during Mardi Gras season. The room allotment could fill quickly, so it might be a good idea to reserve your room early. Notice the rate is good for 3 days prior and after the meetings.

**Sheraton New Orleans Hotel**

**500 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130**


**RESERVATIONS:** For lodging reservations, click on this link which is specific for our SAAS conference: [https://book.passkey.com/event/50200467/owner/111/landing](https://book.passkey.com/event/50200467/owner/111/landing)

Or, call the Sheraton 888-627-7033. Be sure to ask for the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists group rate.

**RATES:** Single/Double/Triple/Quad $159 +tax

Group Rate will be honored for 3 days before and 3 days after conference dates of Feb. 10-15 for visiting/sightseeing, if available.

Deadline: Thursday, January 20, 2022, 11:59 PM CST.

**CHECK IN:** 4:00 pm

**CHECK OUT:** 11:00 am

**AIRPORT:** Hotel is approx.15 miles (approx. 27 minutes) from Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY).

Hotel does not provide shuttle service to and from the airport. [Click here for further information](https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/msvis-sheraton-new-orleans-hotel/).

**PARKING:** On-site parking, fee: $35 USD daily; Valet $48.

**AMENITIES:** Complimentary WiFi in sleeping and meeting rooms. (The minimum bandwidth for complimentary in guest rooms is 7 Mbps for basic level.) Complimentary access to 24-hour Sheraton Fitness Center

**SHIPPING AND STORAGE:** Please call the Sheraton at 504-525-2500 and ask for specifics. Be sure to mention you are with Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS).

**SAAS Web Site**

[https://www.sasinc.org/](https://www.sasinc.org/)

Contains additional information about restaurants, things to do, weather and airport information.
Call for Paper Titles – Sections

**Deadlines:**
November 12  
Authors: email formatted titles as .doc or .rtf files to Section Chairs.
November 24 -  
Section Chairs: email to the Secretary-Treasurer a complete list of all titles, via email, properly formatted, and as one .doc or .rtf file.

**Submission of Paper Title and Presentation of Paper:** One of the authors must be registered for the conference (SR-ASHS or one of the other societies and SAAS); authors do not have to be dues paying members of SR-ASHS.

**Abstract Publication:** To publish abstracts, one of the authors must be registered for the SRASHS conference, the title must appear in the Conference Program, and the paper/poster must be presented at the conference. No-shows will not be published. Abstracts must be submitted as a .doc or .rtf file to the Chair by the date of the session. For format, see the Abstract Preparation Form on the Southern Region Web Site (srashs.org).

**If all authors have the same address, use the following format for Paper Titles:**

**Identification of the Compounds Contributing to Antioxidant Activity in Specialty Potatoes (Solanum tuberosum L.).** Lavanya Reddivari* and J.C. Miller, Jr., Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2133. (lavanya@neo.tamu.edu)

**If authors have separate addresses, use the following format for Paper Titles:**

**Molecular Marker Analysis of a Segregating Blackberry Population.** Eric T. Stafne1*, John R. Clark1, and Kim S. Lewers2, 1316 Plant Science, Department of Horticulture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 2USDA-ARS Fruit Lab., 10300 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705. (estafne@uark.edu)

*indicates the presenting author; list corresponding author’s email address at the end of the abstract.

**Send Titles to Section Chairs**

**Education Section**
Garry McDonald, Chair  
Dept of Horticulture  
316 Plant Sciences Bldg  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
gmcdonal@uark.edu

**Extension Section**
Amanda McWhirt, Chair  
University of Arkansas  
2301 S. University  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
amcwhirt@uada.edu

**Fruit Crops Section**
Edgar Vinson, Co-Chair  
Dept of Horticulture  
101 Funchess Hall  
Auburn, AL 36849  
vinsned@auburn.edu

**Floriculture, Ornaments and Turf Section**
Genhua Niu, Chair  
Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center  
17360 Coit Rd  
Dallas, TX 75252  
genhua.niu@ag.tamu.edu

**Postharvest/Biotechnology Section**
Savithri Nambeesan, Chair  
111 Miller Plant Sci,  
120 Carlton St.  
Athens, GA 30602  
sunamb@uga.edu

**Vegetables Crops Section**
Joe Masabni, Chair  
Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center  
17360 Coit Rd  
Dallas, TX 75252  
jmasabni@ag.tamu.edu

**Poster Section**
Andre DaSilva, Chair  
Department of Horticulture  
Auburn University  
124 Funchess Hall  
Auburn, AL 36849  
adasilva@auburn.edu
Call for Paper Titles – Student Paper Competitions

Deadlines:  November 12  Authors: email formatted titles as .doc or .rtf files to Section Chairs.
November 24  Section Chairs: email to the Secretary-Treasurer a complete list of all titles, via email, properly formatted, and as one .doc or .rtf file.

Submission of Paper Title and Presentation of Paper: One of the authors must be registered for the conference (SR-ASHS or one of the other societies and SAAS); authors do not have to be dues paying members of SR-ASHS.

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*indicates the presenting author; list corresponding author’s email address at the end of the abstract.

Send Titles to the Section Chairs

Students may also present their paper or poster in the Commodity Section, if they submit the title to the appropriate Section Chair and there is an available time slot; they must notify the Chair that it is a second presentation. The abstract will only be published once with the competition papers.

Undergraduate Student Paper Competitions

J.B. Edmond Undergraduate Student Paper Competition
Jeb Fields
LSU AgCenter
21549 Old Covington Highway
Hammond, L 70403
JFields@agcenter.lsu.edu

Undergraduate and Graduate Student Poster Competition
Andre DaSilva, Chair
Department of Horticulture
Auburn University
124 Funchess Hall
Auburn, AL 36849
azb0207@auburn.edu

Graduate Student Paper Competition

Norman F. Childers M.S. Graduate Student Paper Competition
and
Warren S. Barham Ph.D. Graduate Student Paper Competition
Matt Chappell
Tidewater Agricultural Research & Extension Center (AREC)
6321 Holland Road
Suffolk, VA 23437-0099
chappell@vt.edu
Working Group Sessions

The following Working Groups will meet at the annual meeting. Information about the sessions can be obtained by contacting the respective Working Group Chair. If you have agenda items, topics, papers titles, etc. that you would like to present, contact the respective Working Group Chair.

**Registration:**

All participants in the Working Groups must register for the SR-ASHS meeting.

**Abstract Titles Deadlines:**

- November 24: For titles and agenda to appear in the SAAS Program.
- December 17: For titles and agenda to appear in the Southern Region Program.

Working Group Chairs email to the Secretary-Treasurer a complete list of all titles, via email, properly formatted, and as one .doc or .rtf file.

**Abstract Publication:**

To publish abstracts presented in the Working Group Sessions, one of the authors must be registered for the SRASHS conference, the title must appear in the Conference Program, and the paper/poster must be presented at the conference by one of the authors. No-shows will not be published. Abstracts must be submitted as a .doc or .rtf file to the Working Group Chair by the date of the session. For format, see the Abstract Preparation Form on the Southern Region Web Site (srashs.org). The group of abstracts is submitted by the Working Group Chair to the Chair of the most appropriate Commodity Section; the abstracts will be published as a block under a sub-heading of the Section.

**Send Agenda items, paper titles, etc. to the Working Group Chairs**

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<tr>
<th>Horticulture Administrators</th>
<th>Watermelon Research Group</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leo Lombardini, Chair</strong></td>
<td><strong>Daniel Egel, Chair</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Georgia</td>
<td>Purdue University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1111 Miller Plant Sciences Building</td>
<td>4369 N. Purdue Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athens, GA 30602</td>
<td>Vincennes, IN 47591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Lombardini@uga.edu">Lombardini@uga.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:egel@purdue.edu">egel@purdue.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Southern Fruit Workers</th>
<th>National Sweet Potato Collaborators</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rachel Itle, Co-Chair</strong></td>
<td><strong>Michelle McHarque, Chair</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Georgia</td>
<td>Senior Research Scientist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1109 Experiment Street</td>
<td>2005 Saint Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griffin, GA 30223</td>
<td>Richland, WA 99354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:ritle@uga.edu">ritle@uga.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Michelle.McHargue@lambweston.com">Michelle.McHargue@lambweston.com</a></td>
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Call for Nominations for Student Awards

Student Paper and Poster Awards
Submit to Chair: Submit paper titles to the respective Chairs in Call for Student Paper Competition Titles
ACB Club and Club Member Awards
Requirements: See below for each award
Submit to Advisor: Mail or e-mail Nominations to the ACB Faculty Advisor listed below.
Nomination Forms: Download award forms from the Southern Region web site: srashs.org
Deadlines: November 24 - Nomination packet submitted to the Chair
December 17 - Chairs submits recipients to Secretary-Treasurer

Student Oral & Poster Awards
Submit titles to Chairs listed in Call for Paper Titles – Student Paper Competitions

J.B. Edmond
Undergraduate Student Paper Awards
Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners reporting original research by undergraduate students. The awards are certificates and checks for $300, $200 and $100 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. The award is funded by the J.B. Edmond Undergraduate Student Paper Endowment.

Norman F. Childers
M.S. Graduate Student Paper Awards
Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners reporting original research by M.S. students. The awards are certificates and checks for $500, $300, and $200 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. The award is sponsored by Norman F. Childers Endowment.

Warren S. Barham
Ph.D. Graduate Student Paper Awards
Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners reporting original research by Ph.D. students. The awards are certificates and checks for $500, $300, and $200 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. The award is sponsored by Warren S. Barham Endowment.

Outstanding Poster Awards
One award is given for the best undergraduate student poster and one for the best graduate student poster. The awards are certificates and $100 for undergraduate and graduate poster.

Norman F. Childers’ Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Award is given to the outstanding graduate student in the southern region. The award is $1,000 funded by the Childers Endowment.
Send nominations to:
Bodie Pennisi, Chair
University of Georgia
CAES Griffin Campus
1109 Experiment St
Griffin, GA 30223
bpennisi@uga.edu

Assoc. of Collegiate Branch Awards
Outstanding Club Award
Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ACB Clubs (active dues paid clubs) based on the club’s activity record for the previous academic year. Certificates and awards $150, $100 and $50 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively.

Hammett Memorial Award for Outstanding Association of Collegiate Branch Member
The award is given to the student judged to be the Outstanding ACB Club Member. The award consists of a plaque.
Send Nominations to
Nate Phillips Chair
Middle Tennessee State University
Campus Box 5
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
Nate.Phillips@mtsu.edu

J. Benton Storey Undergraduate Student Horticulture Judging Contest
Awards are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place clubs and individuals in each commodity category. Only one team per ACB club or department may compete for awards. The ACB club must have current dues paid, and all student competitors must be registered for the current meeting. Individual students may judge as space allows Clubs sign-up to compete at the meeting.
Call for Nominations for Member Awards

Requirements: See below for each award.
Submit to Chair: Mail or e-mail Nominations to Awards Chair listed below.
Nomination Form: Download Nomination Forms from the Southern Region web site: srashs.org
Deadlines: November 24- Nominations submitted to Award Chairs December 17 - Award Chairs submits recipients to Secretary-Treasurer

J. Creighton Miller, Jr. Distinguished Educator Award
The award recognizes outstanding teaching.
Requirements: (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) classroom teaching and advising for 10 or more years, with primary emphasis in undergraduate teaching; (3) substantial portion of effort in teaching regardless of appointment; (4) nominations are limited to one per institution; and (5) not a previous recipient (or of L.M. Ware Teaching Award). The award consists of a plaque and a check for $200. The award is endowed by Dr. Jeannie P. Miller, wife of Dr. Miller. Formerly (pre-2006) the L.M. Ware Teaching Award.
Send nominations to:
Garry McDonald, Chair
Univ of Arkansas
Dept of Horticulture
316 Plant Sciences Bldg
Fayetteville, AR 72701
gmcdonal@uark.edu

Julian C. Miller, Sr. Distinguished Research Award
The award recognizes outstanding research.
Requirements: (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) outstanding record in research on one or more horticultural crops and in one or more areas of horticultural research for a period of 10 or more years; (3) substantial portion of effort in research regardless of appointment; (4) nominations are limited to one per institution; and (5) not a previous recipient (or of L.M. Ware Research Award). The award consists of a plaque and a check for $200. The award is endowed by Dr. J. Creighton Miller, Jr. in memory of his father. Formerly (pre-2006) the L.M. Ware Research Award.
Send nominations to:
Gina Fernandez, Chair
North Carolina State Univ.
260 Kilgore Hall
Box 7609
Raleigh, NC 27695-7609
gina_fernandez@ncsu.edu

Krezdorn Award for Excellence in Doctoral Research and Writing
The award is presented in recognition of the best published paper developed from doctoral research.
Requirements: (1) award recipient and/or primary advisor must be active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) submit reprint of paper published in any refereed journal, (3) paper published within calendar year of award due date and the previous calendar year; therefore for this cycle the paper must have been published in calendar year 2020 or 2021, (4) doctoral research must have been completed in horticulture at a university in the Southern Region; (5) one paper per senior author and submitted only once. The award consists of a plaque and a check for $200. The award was endowed by the late Dr. Alfred Krezdorn.
Send nominations to:
Katherine Jennings, Chair
NC State University
Box 7609
Raleigh, NC 27695
katie_jennings@ncsu.edu

Paul Smeal Leadership and Administration Award
The award is presented in recognition of outstanding leadership and administration, which contributes to the progress of professional horticulture.
Requirements: (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) active administrator and leader as Department Chair or Head, or College or University administrator at a University in the Southern Region; or administrators of horticultural units, such as Universities, USDA stations, botanical gardens, arboreta, etc., with a minimum of 6 faculty equivalent positions in horticulture. (3) not a member of the selection committee.
Send nominations to:
Wayne Mackay, Chair
Univ of Arkansas
Department of Horticulture
316A Plant Sciences Bldg
Fayetteville, AR 72701
mackay@uark.edu

**Henry M. Covington Extension Award**
The award is in recognition of outstanding and valuable contributions to horticulture by an Extension Horticulturist.

**Requirements:** 1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) minimum 5 years’ experience as an extension agent or specialist; (3) minimum 60% extension appointment; (4) not a member of the selection committee; (5) not a previous recipient or any other Region award this year. The award is endowed by the late Dr. Henry Covington and his wife. The award consists of a plaque and a check for $200.

**Send nominations to:**
**Bodie Pennisi, Chair**
University of Georgia
1109 Experiment St
CAES Griffin Campus
Griffin, GA 30223
bpennisi@uga.edu

**John E. Hutchison Extension Award for Young Professionals**
The award is presented in recognition of outstanding service by a young Extension Worker.

**Requirements:** (1) active member in good standing in SR-ASHS for at least two years; (2) person must be 35 years or younger on December 31 in year of nomination or 5 or less years in continuous extension experience; (3) greater than 50 percent extension appointment in horticulture (city, county, area, or state). The award consists of a $200 award and a plaque. The award is sponsored by the Texas Pecan Growers Association.

**Send nominations to:**
**Kathryn Fonteno, Chair**
Louisiana State University
LSU AgCenter
104 Sturgis Hall
LSU Campus
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu

**Extension Communications Awards**
The award is presented in recognition of outstanding contribution to the understanding of horticultural subjects. Submissions may be circulars, bulletins, tabloids, manuals, newspaper series, fact sheets, video, computer programs, and other methods of electronic delivery.

**Requirements:** (1) senior author must be active member in good standing in SR-ASHS; (2) one publication per author; (3) entry may be submitted by the author(s) themselves or by SR-ASHS members on behalf of the authors; (3) entry should have been prepared within the past two years; (4) submit three copies (print, electronic or digital) of the entry, and (5) a completed Extension Communication Entry Form. Copies of entries will not be returned unless arrangements are made with the Chair. The award consists of a Blue Ribbon Certificate.

**Send nominations to:**
**Danielle Treadwell Chair**
Univ of Florida
Department of Horticulture
PO Box 110690
Gainesville, FL 32611-0690
ddtreadw@ufl.edu
### 2020-21 and 2021-22 Officers, Chairs and Committees

(Term of office is from end of 2019 meeting through 2022 meeting)

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<th>Officers</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Amy Wright</td>
<td><a href="mailto:awright@auburn.edu">awright@auburn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Matt Chappell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chappell@vt.edu">chappell@vt.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>President-Elect-Elect</td>
<td>to be elected</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
<td>David Reed</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dwreed@tamu.edu">dwreed@tamu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Chair, Senior Retired President</td>
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<td>Member, Immediate Past President</td>
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<td>President</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Recruitment director</td>
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<td>National Chair ACB Rep</td>
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ACB Advisor: will to manage judging contest

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<td>Awards Committees</td>
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<td>Miller Distinguished Educator, Chair</td>
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<td>Covington Extension Award, Chair</td>
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<td>Krezdomn Doctoral Writing, Chair</td>
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<td>Smeal Leadership, Chair</td>
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<td>Childers Outstanding Graduate Stu., Chair</td>
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<td>Outstanding ACB Club &amp; Club Member</td>
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