

TSU undergraduate students impress Tennessee legislators with their research

February 24, 2016, Nashville, TN – Eight undergraduates from Tennessee State University participated in the annual Posters on Capitol Hill for undergraduate research. Representing three colleges at TSU, the demonstrated a great breadth of research activities. Accompanied by Drs. Tom Byl and Matthew Blair of the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences, the students met with Representatives Harold Love, Johnny Shaw, G.A. Hardaway, and Brenda Gilmore to describe their research endeavors. Representatives Hardaway and Shaw, who both serve on the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee invited Matthew Edwards, a senior in Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, to speak to the committee about his research on a new grain crop, amaranth (photo 2). Faculty member Dr. Tom Byl also addressed the committee about research activities in water resources. Two other students from the College of Agriculture also presented their research, Brittany Hogan (Environmental Sciences) and Danelle Solomon (Water Resources). All three of the agriculture students are part of the Dean's Scholars program; these exceptional students were recruited because of their academic excellence. The legislators were so impressed with the student research that they plan on visiting the campus to see all the exciting activities.



Photo 1. (left to right) Representative Parkinson, Chanel Alford (TSU), Representative Shaw, Brittany Hogan (TSU), Representative Hardaway, Representative Love, Elizabeth Stansberry (TSU), Matthew Edwards (TSU), Mariam Boules (TSU), Geral Nwosu (TSU), Carsyn Snagg (TSU), and Danelle Solomon (TSU).



Photo 2. TSU senior, Matthew Edwards, speaks to the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources about crop production research at Tennessee State University. The House committee is chaired by Rep. Curtis Halford.



Photo 3. Representative Hardaway enjoyed talking with the students from TSU so much that he asked them to take a group “selfie” photo.

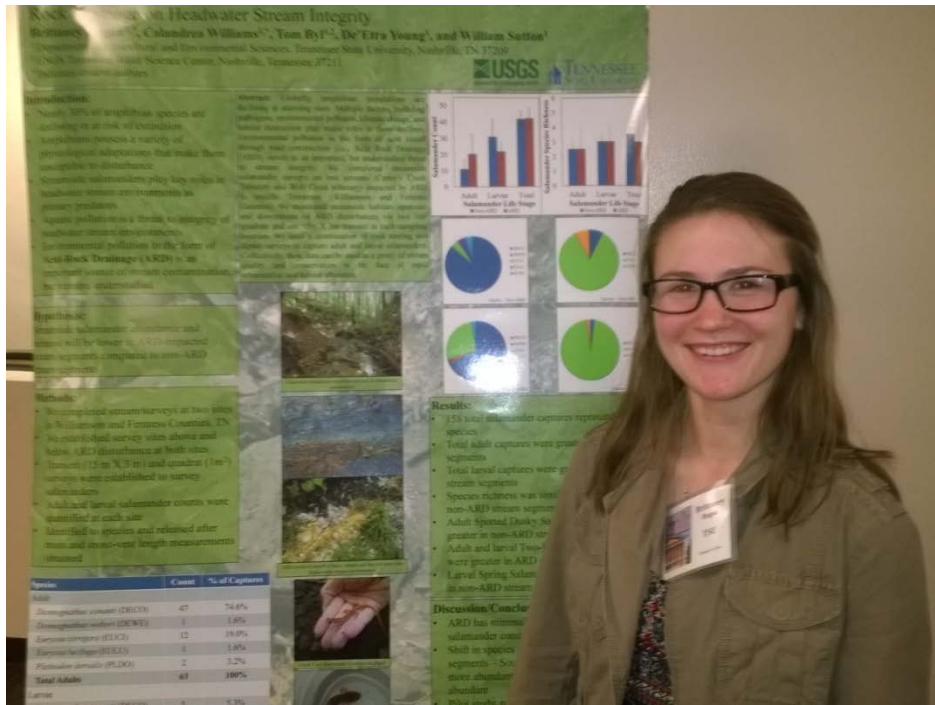


Photo 4. Brittaney Hogan, a student in the College of Agriculture Human and Natural Sciences, shares her findings about the effect of acid rock drainage on salamander populations in middle Tennessee.



Photo 5. Danelle Solomon describes how Geographic Information Systems can be used to visualize the geology and hydrology of the aquifer on the TSU Research Farm.



Photo 6. Matthew Edwards talks with legislators and legislative aids about different crops that can be grown in Tennessee at the Posters on Capitol Hill event.