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**Subject:** Fwd: Student opportunities at SDAFS 2017 in OK City  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2016 9:47:55 AM

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**Working toward delivering the best science. >}}}}}}}}(>**

*"With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts" - Eleanor Roosevelt*

"Power isn't control at all--power is strength, and giving that strength to others. A leader isn't someone who forces others to make him stronger; a leader is someone willing to give his strength to others that they may have the strength to stand on their own."

**Cindy A. Williams**  
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***Above all, taking the shield of faith, with which you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. >))))))(>***

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Brandon Peoples** <[sd@emaildodo.com](mailto:sd@emaildodo.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Nov 10, 2016 at 8:40 AM  
**Subject:** Student opportunities at SDAFS 2017 in OK City  
**To:** [cynthia\\_williams@fws.gov](mailto:cynthia_williams@fws.gov)

The Southern Division AFS (SDAFS) meeting February 2-5, 2017 in Oklahoma City is going to be a great meeting for student participation; (1) SDAFS has

allocated \$4,000 to Student Affairs to provide a limited number of free hotel rooms for students (see below); (2) Best Student Presentation and Poster Awards and symposium; (3) Student Mentor Lunch; and (4) Eleven educational workshops (<http://sd.fisheries.org/2017-oklahoma-city-meeting/>).

### **1) Student Hotel Rooms**

The SDAFS supports a limited number of complimentary hotel rooms for students attending the 2017 SDAFS Spring Meeting (February 2 - 5) at the Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center Hotel in Oklahoma City, OK. Rooms are available for 2 nights (February 3 and 4). In order to be considered for a free room, students must be a current AFS member (Parent Society of AFS – fee \$20 - <https://fisheries.org/membership/types-of-membership/#student>) and volunteer to assist the Oklahoma Chapter during the 2017 SDAFS Spring Meeting. Students interested in these rooms should contact Nicole Rankin ([nicolemrankin@gmail.com](mailto:nicolemrankin@gmail.com)), the Chair of the Student Affairs Committee. Students receiving complimentary hotel rooms will be notified by January 4, 2017. If interested, please send Nicole an email that includes your name, complete mailing address, email address, phone number, university affiliation, current degree track (BS, MS, PhD) and your gender (so that appropriate room assignments can be organized).

### **2) Best Student Presentation and Best Student Poster Awards**

The SDAFS supports awards for Best Student Presentation and Best Student Poster at the annual SDAFS meeting. Students interested in competing for the Best Student Presentation and the Best Student Poster at the 2017 SDAFS meeting should indicate so with their abstract submission. Finalists for the Best Student Presentation will be selected based on submitted abstracts and notified prior to the meeting. Each selected finalist will be required to give his or her presentation in the Best Student Symposium on Saturday, February 4. Submissions for Best Student Poster will be judged during the Poster Session on Friday, February 3. Abstract submission deadline is November 18, 2016.

### **3) Student Mentor Lunch at 2017 SDAFS Spring Meeting**

The Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society encourages interaction between students and fisheries professionals through a Student Mentor Lunch. The Student Mentor Lunch at the 2017 SDAFS meeting will

occur at noon on Saturday, February 4. If you are a student interested in being paired with a mentor for lunch that day, please indicate your participation by making the appropriate selection on the registration form. You may also send an email to Nicole Rankin ([nicolemrankin@gmail.com](mailto:nicolemrankin@gmail.com)), the Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, stating your interest. We will try to match students with mentors that can offer specific career advice. If you email Nicole, please indicate what school you attend, the degree you are working towards, and whether you would prefer a mentor from an Academic Institute, State Agency, Federal Agency, or Private Firm.

#### **4) Education Workshops**

There are eleven educational workshops planned where students might learn about topics where they have deficiencies; including ageing fish, modeling with  $r$ , electrofishing, human dimensions, stream habitat restoration, safety, and leadership. There is even a free workshop on how to get your first professional job(<http://sd.fisheries.org/2017-oklahoma-city-meeting/>)

Please pass this information on to students.

Thanks,

Wes Porak. President-Elect

Southern Division American Fisheries Society

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