

Perry Oakes Receives National SWCS Award

Perry Oakes received the National Soil and Water Conservation Society's 2012 President's Leadership Award for his outstanding work in the Alabama Chapter for his leadership in the educational area and support of student chapters, especially for his effort in starting the Tuskegee University Student Chapter.

The Tuskegee University Student Chapter was formally organized in 2011, after an initial teleconference with SWCS President Bill Boyer, receiving commitment from faculty at Tuskegee University, and gaining financial support from the Alabama Chapter.



Since serving as the Alabama Chapter President in 2009 and 2010, Oakes has served annually as Chair of the Education Committee. Oakes took the lead in developing the Chapter's scholarship program which is offered annually and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship in 2010, 2011, and 2012 to a worthy student pursuing a natural resources-related degree. In 2013 the scholarship amount will increase to \$2,000.

Oakes was selected as an outstanding representative of chapter leadership and personal commitment.

The SWCS President's Leadership Award is given at the discretion of the SWCS President in recognition of exemplary assistance to the President in helping to carry out the goals and objectives of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.