

FAPC Students Receive Scholarships

STILLWATER, Okla. – Two students who work at the Food & Agricultural Products Center, located on the Oklahoma State University campus, recently received scholarships from the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board.

Mandy Stricklin, of Prague, Okla., and Stephanie Marak, of Meeker, Okla., each received a \$1,500 scholarship for the 2006-2007 academic year. Both work in the FAPC food microbiology laboratory under Stanley E. Gilliland, FAPC food microbiologist.

Stricklin is a junior at Oklahoma State University majoring in food science. Gilliland serves as her academic adviser.

“I was pretty honored [to receive the award],” Stricklin said.

She is active in the Food Science Club, the Dairy Science Club and is a member of the Food Science Quiz Bowl team.

Stricklin’s duties in the microbiology laboratory include conducting research on yogurt and the bacteria involved.

Marak is a senior at Oklahoma State University. She also is working on a degree in food science. Her academic adviser is Christina DeWitt, animal science assistant professor.

“I’m very happy to receive an award from a nationally recognized organization,” Marak said.

She is active in the Food Science and Dairy Science clubs, and her duties at the FAPC include cleaning and organizing Gilliland’s microbiology laboratory.

“Recipients of these scholarships are selected from students across the United States,” Gilliland said. “This speaks well of the caliber of these young ladies.”

Each year, the NDPRB awards individual scholarships to up to 19 sophomore, junior and/or senior undergraduate students who are enrolled in programs that emphasize dairy. Scholarship recipients display outstanding achievement, a commitment to a career in a dairy-related discipline and demonstrate leadership, initiative and integrity.

“The NDPRB has awarded 14 of these scholarships to students in our food science program at OSU since 1998,” Gilliland said. “We are grateful for this support from the NDPRB.”

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