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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Chemical Society Student Affiliates chapter from Texas Wesleyan honored at national meeting in Anaheim, California

FORT WORTH, March 24 – The American Chemical Society (ACS) Student Affiliates (SA) chapter at Texas Wesleyan University will receive an outstanding award for the 2002-03 academic year at the 227th ACS National Meeting in Anaheim, California on Sunday, March 28. Only 158 of the 950 chapters from the United States and Puerto Rico will be given awards for the 2002-03 academic year, and of those honored, only 29 will be recognized with the highest designation: outstanding. Texas Wesleyan University will receive this honor due to their exceptional chapter activities and community involvement.

Ricardo Rodriguez, Texas Wesleyan University professor and ACS Student Affiliates advisor, says the Wesleyan chapter has been winning national awards from the ACS for over ten years, but this is the first outstanding distinction they've received during that time.

Texas Wesleyan SA students Dierdre Elson, former Texas Wesleyan SA

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president, and Ashley Milligan, current Texas Wesleyan SA president, will accept the award on behalf of Texas Wesleyan University at the national ACS meeting. They will also present a paper they have researched and co-written with Dr. Katherine Prater, Texas Wesleyan associate professor of chemistry.

“I’m thrilled to death (about this opportunity),” says Prater, who works closely with Texas Wesleyan’s SA. “This is the best group of student affiliates we’ve had since I’ve been here, which is six years. I’m excited about the award, the paper and the opportunity to present it nationally.”

Texas Wesleyan SA chapter activities include community, University and social involvement such as putting on chemistry magic shows for elementary students, participating in programs such as “Boo at the Zoo,” and collecting cleaning supplies, detergents and personal hygiene products for local women’s shelters.

The ACS assists in the pre-professional development of undergraduate students studying chemical sciences and related fields, giving them the opportunity to enroll in the ACS Student Affiliates program. As members of the SA program, students are offered the support, privileges and benefits of ACS, the largest scientific professional society worldwide. For more information on the Texas Wesleyan Student Affiliates chapter, contact Dr. Ricardo Rodriguez at (817) 531-4864.

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