Announcements

Directors of Graduate Studies,

First, some exciting news to share with you. Congratulations to Dean John Keller who was awarded the Debra Stewart Award for Outstanding Leadership in Graduate Education at the Annual Council of Graduate Schools meeting in December. In other recent news, Sharon Ildig, our 3MT winner last fall, was featured in a story on KGAN/Channel 2 in Cedar Rapids.

January was a busy time for the Graduate College because in addition to planning spring events, we offered a CIRTL winter series for graduate students and a STEAMProv workshop (using improvisation techniques in teaching and research). During January, sixteen graduate students participated in the week-long Obermann Graduate Institute exploring the role of public engagement in teaching, research and creative work.

Spring Semester DGS meetings will be held on the following dates. Agendas and meeting minutes can be found here. Please note that the February meeting is in the IMU but subsequent meetings in March and April will be in PBB.

- Wednesday, February 7 in IMU Iowa Theater
- Wednesday, March 7, 2018, W401 PBB
- Wednesday, April 11, 2018, W401 PBB
- Wednesday, May 2, 2018, Joint Grad Faculty/DGS Meeting, Senate Chamber, Old Capitol

The Spring fellowship deadlines are now available. A list of comprehensive internal fellowship due dates and descriptions are available on the GC website. Applications are currently being accepted on a rolling basis for the Recruitment Fellowship and the new Lulu Merle Johnson Fellowship for URM students.

Attached to this email is a message for graduate students regarding upcoming professional development opportunities. As a reminder, you may forward the attached email directly to graduate students in your program if you would like to call their attention to Graduate College professional development offerings or announcements.

Best regards,

Sarah

Sarah Larsen
Senior Associate Dean, Graduate College

Academic Affairs

Policy Update

The Graduate College has updated the policy language for the five-years post comp rule for doctoral students. Please find a copy of the revised policy attached. The policy can also be found on our website, here.

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Call for Nominations: Outstanding Teaching Assistant

The University of Iowa Council on Teaching announces the 29th annual Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards and invites nominations for 2017-18. This award recognizes teaching assistants who have demonstrated outstanding ability as teachers at the University of Iowa.

Teaching assistants from all academic units may be nominated. Nominees must have a formal appointment as a teaching assistant and certify that they have had formal student contact during at least one of the following semesters: Spring 2017, Summer 2017, and/or Fall 2017. A teaching assistant who has won this award in the past may be nominated again.

Nominations may be initiated by students, faculty, colleagues, departmental executive officers (DEOs) or deans. Self-nominations are not allowed.

Please help publicize the award by informing students, faculty, and staff who may be interested in nominating someone. This information and instructions are available on the Council on Teaching webpage for the Outstanding Teaching Award. Please follow the timelines for submission within your College in order to complete the online process by the deadline. No nominations can be submitted to the Council on Teaching after noon on Friday, March 2, 2018. For further information, contact Tom Schmidt or Brenda Bradley at [335-3585].

Call for Nominations: Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017-2018 Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award. This year’s eligible departments are in Biological and Life Sciences and the Humanities and Fine Arts. Deadline for the initial letters of nomination is Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

This award recognizes exemplary mentoring of doctoral students by members of the UI graduate faculty. Each eligible department may nominate one mentor; nominations must come from a faculty member in that department. This year, a nomination letter is all that is required initially for a nomination. Information about the award and the application process are available here. Recipients of the award will be recognized at the spring semester joint graduate faculty/directors of graduate studies meeting. A reception will follow the presentation of awards in the Old Capitol rotunda. Please contact Kathy Klein Gerling (kathy.klein@uiowa.edu, 335-3493) if you have any questions.

Call for Nominations: Discovery and Innovation Awards

Incredible and transformative work is taking place at the University across disciplines in the areas of discovery, innovation, entrepreneurship and leadership development. You have an opportunity to help recognize the individuals responsible for this amazing work by submitting your nominations for faculty, staff and student research, innovation, mentorship and startup awards.

Nominations are due Monday, February 5, 2018. The full list of awards, nomination instructions and award criteria are available at http://research.uiowa.edu/office-research-economic-development/reco-recognizing-research-innovation-excellence.

Awards are sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development, the Office of Finance and Operations, the Graduate College, the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, and the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates. Winners will be awarded and recognized formally at our annual Celebrating Excellence: The University of Iowa Discovery & Innovation Awards Ceremony, which will highlight these research, innovation and scholarly achievements on April 17, 2018.
Graduate Student Events and Professional Development

**Demystifying Thesis and Dissertation Requirements Workshop**
There is an upcoming thesis and dissertation workshop to your graduate students who are currently, or will soon, be working on completing their thesis or dissertation. While it is especially important to reach spring 2018 graduates, information will be presented that is relevant to all students completing a thesis or dissertation. Students graduating in any upcoming session are welcome to attend.

Information covered includes: policies and deadlines, submission and revision, formatting tips and resources, copyright, embargo, and crafting a public abstract.
Students can RSVP [here](https://iowagraduatesuccess.careers.photo_booth.youcanbook.me/).

**Graduate College Photo Booth Events**
Interested in having a professional photo taken? All graduate students and postdocs are invited to sign up to have their pictures taken during a Graduate College Photo Booth session. Graduate students and postdocs can use this picture on their LinkedIn profile, their departmental webpage, and other places they need a professional presence. Plus, it takes less than 5 minutes. What to wear? The picture will have more value to you if you dress professionally. It is however just a head shot, so it isn’t a problem to spruce up bit just for the photo - put on a tie or jacket for a minute. There isn’t time for a whole wardrobe change, but some students have gotten two pictures, wearing a lab coat in the second one for instance. Like all Grad Success services, the Photo Booth is FREE to all graduate students and postdocs in programs served by the Graduate College.

The next photo booths will be January 24 from 11:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. and February 14 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in 423 Gilmore Hall. You can sign up for a time slot here: [https://iowagraduatesuccess.careers.photo_booth.youcanbook.me/](https://iowagraduatesuccess.careers.photo_booth.youcanbook.me/).

**2018 Jakobsen Memorial Conference Committee**
The 2018 Jakobsen Memorial Conference Committee is seeking judges for our annual graduate research paper competition. The Jakobsen Memorial Conference is an annual interdisciplinary research conference organized by and for graduate students at the University of Iowa. This year the 20th Annual Jakobsen Memorial Conference will be on Saturday, March 24, 2018. Students are invited to submit papers for judging and a potential cash prize. We invite you to help judge the fantastic graduate research that is being conducted at the University of Iowa.
This year each judge will have no more than 5 papers/projects to evaluate. Judges are given a rubric and scores are input via a form in mid-March. Each judge can indicate their first and second choices for category: Creative Works, Humanities, Social Sciences & Education, Biological & Health Sciences, Math, Engineering & Physical Sciences, and Other Professional. This indication will help us know which kinds of papers to send to which judges.
Being a judge requires a minor time commitment but has a significant impact on the graduate student community at the University of Iowa. We truly appreciate your help in this endeavor. If you are willing to be a judge please fill out a Qualtrics survey (by January 30) at: [https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cCRA2X4d3RXuyI5](https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cCRA2X4d3RXuyI5). If you have any questions, please feel to email mariastiana.morabe@uiowa.edu. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

**Fellowship Resources**

**Graduate College Spring & Summer Fellowship Opportunities**
In summer 2017 the Graduate College launched a new pre-comprehensive exam mentored research fellowship for underrepresented ethnic minority PhD students (US citizens or permanent residents who are Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American-Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders). We are pleased to announce we will offer the fellowship in both Spring and Summer of 2018. The deadlines for applications is February 15. To be eligible, students must have completed at least one full semester of coursework at the time of application (PhD student who were new this summer or fall are not eligible for spring). Details can be found at: [https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/underrepresented-minority-pre-comprehensive-exam-mentored-summer-research-fellowship-pilot-program](https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/underrepresented-minority-pre-comprehensive-exam-mentored-summer-research-fellowship-pilot-program).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Interim Associate Dean Shelly Campo at 319-335-2136 or [shelly.campo@uiowa.edu](mailto:shelly.campo@uiowa.edu).

**Graduate College News**

**PH.D. Student Seeks to Understand Sugar Cravings**
Sharon Idiga, a third-year doctoral student in molecular medicine, discusses her research on FGFR1’s suppression of sugar intake during a television news interview.

**Grad Students Learn True Meaning of Public Engagement**
Every year, 16 University of Iowa graduate students meet the week before the spring semester to explore how public engagement can enhance teaching, research, and creative work.
[https://now.uiowa.edu/2018/01/26/grad-students-learn-true-meaning-public-engagement#interactive_maps](https://now.uiowa.edu/2018/01/26/grad-students-learn-true-meaning-public-engagement#interactive_maps).