Announcements

Directors of Graduate Studies,

We will meet this week for the November DGS meeting on Wednesday, November 8 in the IMU theater. The agenda can be found here. After announcements, we will discuss how implementation of annual reviews and individual development plans (IDPs). As part of the presentation, Assistant Dean Jennifer Teitle will demo the new IDP for Humanities and Social Science PhD students, ImaginePhD. I will follow with a brief overview of the STEM tool, myIDP on Science Careers.

We invite you all to the 3MT finals which will be held this Friday, November 10 in Art Building West, Room 240 from 3-5 pm. A showcase of this year’s finalists can be found here. Come cheer your departmental participants on as they compete in the final round! We will also be displaying the finalist entries from the first UI “Thesis in Focus” research image competition.

Check out our stories on the most recent dissertation winners which can be found on the GC website.

If you know faculty interested in participating as a mentor in the Summer Research Opportunities (SROP) program next summer, please encourage complete the Mentor Research Interest Form provided at our website (sign in with your Hawk ID and password) and submit it electronically at your earliest convenience. Contact Diana Sproles (diana-sproles@uiowa.edu) with questions.

Please see the message below from Karen Wachsmuth, Fulbright Program Advisor, International Programs asking for your help in identifying graduate students who might be interested in applying for Fulbright Fellowships.

Best regards,
Sarah

Sarah Larsen
Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Administrative Affairs

December 2017 Commencement

The Graduate College holds two commencement ceremonies each year, one in May and one in December. To participate in the ceremony, students must register. The next commencement ceremony will be held Friday, December 15, 2017 at 7 p.m. at Hancher Auditorium. Graduate students who completed their studies in Summer 2017 (and did not participate in May commencement) have the option of participating in December, 2017 commencement. Information is available for students here.

Graduates/faculty interested in renting apparel should contact Herff Jones direct by calling 952-447-4449. Rental orders must be received no later than Saturday, November 11, 2017 to avoid a late rental fee (952-447-4449) for the December 2017 commencement ceremony.

Fulbright Student Nomination

Dear faculty/advisor/staff member,

I’m writing to request your annual Fulbright student nomination by Friday, November 18. Would you be willing to recommend/nominate a few gifted students that you feel may be potentially interested in a Fulbright U.S. Student Award (U.S. citizens only)? Your nominations last year spurred the UI to a record number of 16 student grantees, and resulted in the UI being nationally recognized as a Top Producing Institution for the second year in a row for 2016-17, tied with UCBerkeley and Duke University.

The Fulbright funds students to teach English, do research, study, or creative work abroad for an academic year; foreign language skills may not even be necessary (U.S. citizens only).

Please nominate your top students(U.S. citizens only):
- undergraduate (preferably juniors or seniors, or even recent alumni from the past 1-3 years seeking opportunities) or
- graduate students (who will not have completed the Ph.D. by Oct. 2018) and M.F.A. alumni who have graduated in the past 5 years and are not yet qualified for Fulbright faculty-level Scholar Program
- who are academically gifted (although a high G.P.A. is not required) and
- engaged in the community.

Please help us get started for next year by nominating students by Friday, November 18.
Please send the names of 3-5 undergraduate or graduate students or alumni to mary-paterson@uiowa.edu (emails would be a great help if the student’s name is a common one. Feel free to include fewer or more names).

Please contact me with any questions you may have. Many thanks, as always, for your invaluable help!

Best wishes,
Karen

Karen Wachsmuth, Ph.D.
Associate Director, International Fellowships
Fulbright Program Advisor
International Programs
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(319) 335-1436 | karen.wachsmuth@uiowa.edu
http://international.uiowa.edu/funding/students

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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 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 respectively. 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.

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

Academic Affairs

Change to Course Registration Deadlines for Fall 2017

November 7, 2017 is the last day for graduate students to drop a course without Dean’s permission. The Graduate College will only authorize late drops when there are extenuating circumstances. More information about course registration change policies for graduate students can be found here (sections J and K).

Assistance with Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey

Your students received an email invitation to participate in the 2017 Speak Out Iowa Survey, our campus survey on sexual misconduct. The survey asks about two important topics:

1. whether students have experienced any sexual harassment, dating violence, stalking, and sexual violence since enrolling at the University of Iowa; and
2. student perceptions of how the University is doing in responding to sexual misconduct on campus.

Students may not have any personal experience with sexual misconduct, but their responses to the survey questions will help assure that we have an accurate picture of these issues on campus.

The University conducted the first Speak Out Iowa Survey in 2015 and the information from this survey was valuable and informed the UI Anti-Violence Plan. The 2017 survey data will be used to continue to monitor the University’s efforts towards addressing sexual misconduct on campus.

The response to the 2015 survey was lower than expected so we hope to do better in 2017! To that end, the survey has been shortened to take only about 15 minutes to complete.

To learn more about the survey before agreeing to participate, students can click on the link in the invitation email or visit https://speakout.uiowa.edu. Students can review the information about the survey before deciding whether or not to participate. Student participation will be completely anonymous.

OVPRED IC Banner Nomination Requests

Banners featuring UI student researchers will be on display on the light poles throughout downtown Iowa City in early 2018.

This is the third year in a row for the project, which is sponsored by the University of Iowa Office of the Vice President for Research & Economic Development (OVPRED). For campus visitors and locals alike, the banner campaign seeks to put a face to the countless groundbreaking discoveries, innovations, and creative works generated by researchers and scholars at the University of Iowa.

This year, for the first time, the campaign will feature approximately 50 undergraduate and graduate students who are doing research that makes an impact on the state of Iowa and beyond. The past two campaigns featured faculty.

OVPRED is now accepting nominations for student researchers from diverse backgrounds that represent a range of disciplines and hometowns. To submit a nomination, please contact Leslie Revaux, Manager of Campus Communications, at leslie-revaux@uiowa.edu or 319-335-2311. Nominations should include the contact information for the student, a brief description of the student’s work, and hometown, if known. Featured researchers will be announced in early 2018.

Graduate Student Events and Professional Development

Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference (MIGC)

Please see the attached Call for Papers and Call for Creative Work for the thirteenth annual Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference (MIGC). MIGC will take place on February 16-17, 2018, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. MIGC is a graduate conference intended to foster an interdisciplinary dialogue between diverse programs and areas of study. Our conference theme this year is “ASYMMETRY,” and our keynote for the conference is Dr. Lisa Parks (MIT). Parks’ interdisciplinary research deals with global media, inequality in infrastructure development, and, more recently, militarization and drone warfare.

The deadline for abstracts is December 1st, 2017. Papers and creative work are welcomed from a variety of disciplines in the humanities, arts, and humanistic sciences. Please see attached for OVPRED IC Banner Nomination Requests.

Graduate College Photo Booth

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 web page, 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 booth will be at November 29 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in 423 Gilmore Hall. You can sign up for a time slot here: https://www.gradsuccess.uiowa.edu/gradsuccess attractions.

REQUEST A WORKSHOP

Visit bit.ly/GradWorkshops for more information on available workshops & request form.

The Graduate College offers workshops that can be requested by student groups (formal organizations or informal groups of students), faculty, departments, or other campus organizations. These workshops can be a productive addition to orientations, seminars, courses, research group meetings, and more. They introduce students to the basics of professional and career development topics (like application documents, the job search, and more), freeing up faculty to address field-specific issues in more detail.

Graduate College News

Three Minute Thesis Showcase Page Now Live

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT) challenges graduate students to communicate their research in three minutes or less in non-specialist language. Contestants represent a diverse array of disciplines and areas of study, and reflect the passion and thirst for discovery common among all of Iowa’s graduate students. View it here: https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/three-minute-thesis-showcase.

Lulu Merle Johnson: a pioneer in higher education

Lulu Merle Johnson’s story is a powerful tale of triumph. In 1941, Johnson received a Ph.D. in American history from the University of Iowa, becoming the first African American woman in the state of Iowa to earn a doctorate. She also was among the first African American women to earn a Ph.D. in history in the United States. Find the full article on our website:
Graduate College selects dissertation prize winners

Based on their excellence in doctoral research, four University of Iowa graduate students have been recognized for having the best dissertation in their fields at the UI in 2017. The Graduate College honors John Eicher and Viral Shah with the D.C. Spricterbach Dissertation Prize and Allison Cox and Matt Sutterer with the Rex Montgomery Dissertation Prize. Find the full article on our website: https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/news/graduate-college-selects-dissertation-prize-winners

ImaginePhD: A Career Planning Tool

The Graduate College is excited to announce that ImaginePhD, the free, online career exploration and planning tool for Ph.D. students and postdoctoral scholars in the humanities and social sciences is now available for use. Developed by experts from over 50 universities, ImaginePhD offers a unique platform that teaches Ph.Ds about popular job sectors, search strategies, and how to transfer skills across settings. A similar Graduate Career Consortium tool targeting STEM graduate students currently has over 100,000 users.