Announcements

Directors of Graduate Studies:

The fall semester is well underway and the Graduate College is busy in its mission to foster an intellectual environment conducive to exemplary research, scholarship and creativity among graduate students and faculty. Approximately 600 students registered for orientation. Special thanks go to Graduate College orientation team for another highly successful day in welcoming a new class of graduate students to campus. Our campus partners are many and appreciated. The general afternoon orientation was divided into separate sections for masters students and doctoral students, with opening remarks provided by Professors Jodi Linkey and Sarah Bond respectively. Melissa Shivers, Vice President and Interim Chief Diversity Officer, delivered exceptional remarks to new graduate students on color at the Graduate College Connecting Communities event.

The Graduate College continues to provide professional development programming to students through external fellowship community sessions in anticipation of submission to a variety of prominent funding agencies. Remind your students of these opportunities and benefits of the Graduate College Research Incentive Fellowship Program.

The first DGS meeting of this year will be held Wednesday, September 5th in the W401 Pappajohn Business Building (PBB) at 3:30 PM. The agenda will be distributed early next week and will be available here.

Enjoy the upcoming holiday weekend and I look forward to seeing you at the first DGS meeting on September 5th!

Best regards,

John
Associate Provost, Dean
Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development

2018 L.B. Sims Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award - Deadline Sept. 17

Nominations are being accepted for the 2018 L.B. Sims Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award. The L.B. Sims Award is given annually to recognize the excellent scholarship and research carried out by University of Iowa graduate students pursuing Master’s degrees. Nominations are being accepted from the Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Engineering and the Social Sciences. Recipients of the Sims Award will be the University of Iowa nominee for the MAGS Distinguished Thesis Award. Nominations for the L.B. Sims Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award are now due Monday, September 17, 2018. Contact Shelly Campo (shelly-campo@uiowa.edu or 319-335-2136) with questions.

Three Minute Thesis - Registration Deadline September 24

The ability to clearly and concisely articulate complex research to non-specialist audiences is a vital skill for all graduate students. Participating in the Graduate College’s research competitions can help you develop and hone communication skills, gives you a platform to show off your work, and offers the chance to compete for cash prizes. The University of Iowa’s fourth Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition challenges graduate students to clearly and concisely articulate complex research to non-specialist audiences. More information and registration can be found here. Registration deadline is September 24.

Demystifying Thesis and Dissertation Requirements Workshop – September 20

The upcoming thesis and dissertation workshop will be held on Thursday, September 20, 2018 from 9:30-11:00 am at 166 IMU. The workshop will review key policies and deadlines, copyright issues, formatting requirements, and tips on how to write an effective public abstract. Students graduating in any upcoming session are welcome to attend. Students can register here.

Graduate Student Support Group

Graduate students are invited to attend the Graduate Student Support Group at the University Counseling Service (UCS) Westlawn location. The support group is an informal time to meet new graduate students, share the stresses and strains of life as a graduate student, gain support, and celebrate success. Meetings are each Wednesday from 12 to 12:50 at the UCS. Group begins Wednesday, September 5, 2018. For more information, please contact Kathleen Staley, Ph.D., Staff Psychologist at 335-7294 or kathleen-staley@uiowa.edu.

2018-2019 Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award - Deadline October 3

Call for Nominations are now being accepted for the 2018-2019 Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award. This year’s eligible departments are in the Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Engineering, and the Social Sciences. Deadline for the initial departmental letter of nomination is Wednesday, October 3, 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, award criteria, and the application process are available here: Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award. Past recipients are listed on our webpage.

Recipients of the award will be recognized at the 2019 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-klain@uiowa.edu, 335-3493) if you have any questions.

Graduate College News

New ways of crafting a thesis - There’s a strong movement in graduate education to re-think the narrative format of the traditional thesis. This shift, which often centers on the inclusion of digital media, is influenced by a challenging job market and the need for graduate students to more effectively communicate their research with the public. https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/new-ways-crafting-thesis.

A record year for nationally competitive fellowships - A record six University of Iowa graduate students received prestigious National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowships, starting in the 2018-19 academic year. The University of Iowa’s previous high total was five graduate student winners, most recently in 2014-15. https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/six-leader-in-competitive-research.