Announcements

Directors of Graduate Studies,

As part of the Association of American Universities (AAU), the University of Iowa Graduate College promotes programming decisions consistent with national agencies. While attending the AAU Graduate Deans annual conference I noticed discussions surrounded graduate student-centered innovations, reforms, and outcomes. In particular, these two articles are driving the national conversation: National Academies' Commission on graduate STEM education and https://mellon.org/resources/shared-experiences-blog/revitalizing-graduate-education/

At the next DGS meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 3:30 PM in W401 PBB we will discuss innovations for graduate student success – the future of graduate education. After campus leaders present frameworks for innovation pilots, details of a NEW Graduate College sponsored challenge grant/award will be publicized. Meeting minutes and presentation slides from the October DGS meeting are available on the DGS website. The UI Deputy General Counsel also recently shared a resource that offers guidance for supporting students who may pose a risk of self-harm.

As you will see in the upcoming notices, the staff at the Graduate College work industriously in offering students exciting opportunities. The FirstGen Week will be held November 5 – 9. The Graduate College joins other campus offices in celebrating and supporting first generation students on campus. Please remind your graduates to register for December 2018 commencement by November 14.

John C. Keller, PhD
Professor, College of Dentistry
Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Associate Provost for Graduate and Professional Education
Dean, the Graduate College

Fellowships

Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans - The Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans is a $90,000 merit-based fellowship exclusively for immigrants and children of immigrants who are pursuing graduate school in the United States. To find out more about the opportunity or to access the application, go to https://www.pdsoros.org/. Applications are due November 1, 2018.

Graduate Diversity Scholarships and Fellowships - The Graduate Diversity Scholarships and Fellowships are presented to graduate students from disadvantaged and/or underrepresented groups in their fields of graduate study. The application deadline for spring diversity scholarships and fellowships applications is November 10, 2018. More information can be found here.

Graduate Student Events and Professional Development

December 2018 Commencement - The Graduate College holds two commencement ceremonies each year, one in May and one in December. December ceremony participants must register by the November 14th deadline to participate. November 14th is also the deadline to order regalia through Herff Jones without a late fee. Graduates who received their degree summer 2018, but did not participate in May 2018, may do so in December. Fall doctoral graduates are not eligible to participate in the spring 2019 ceremony. The December 2018 ceremony will be held Friday, December 14, 2018, 7 p.m., Hancher. More information is available on the Graduate College website. Questions regarding the ceremony should be directed to Kathy Klein Gerling (Kathy.klein@uiowa.edu) 319-335-3492. All questions regarding regalia should be directed to Herff Jones (gradmidwest@gmail.com) 952-447-4449.

Three Minute Thesis – Final Competition - Three Minute Thesis finals are just over a week away, taking place on Friday, November 2, 3-5 pm at 240 Art Building West. Everyone is welcome to attend, learn about research being conducted across campus, and support their favorite graduate student as they compete! Students are competing for cash prizes. A winner and honorable mentions are selected by judges from the Iowa community, in addition to a people’s choice award voted on by the audience. Our finalists this year 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. You can get introduced to our finalists below and learn more about them on our Finalist Showcase.

- Hannah Campbell, Biochemistry, Cells that work together, stay together.
- Orode Drakes, Geography, Flooding and Suffering in America
- Amanda Mollet, Educational Policy and Leadership Studies (Higher Educ & Student Affairs), “Being invisible isn’t a privilege”: Examining asexual identity development
- Muhammad Rahman, Biomedical and Life Sciences, Preventing auditory neuron degeneration with an anti-inflammatory medicine
- Asif Rahman, Geography, Social Vulnerability to River Floods in the U.S.
- Miriam Janechek, English, Children’s Literature and Belief: A 19th-Century Focus
- Brandon MacDougal, Geography, Camera Trapping For Urban Biodiversity Conservation
- Tianlu Zhang, Second Language Acquisition, Fremeny: A Relationship Between Native Language and Second Language
- Tim Acri, Pharmacy, Bone tissue engineering: a gene delivery approach

First Generation Celebration Week - As part of the National First-Generation College Celebration@Iowa, the Graduate College is collaborating with others to host...
three events. Please see below and consider promoting these events to your students. The full list of events can be found here.

1. **First Generation Graduate Student and Post-doc Social**
   - **Tuesday, November 6**th
   - **4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**
   - **Location: 2520D University Capitol Center**
   
   This is an opportunity for first-generation graduate students and post-docs to gather and network with one another and to discuss how first-generation status impacts their graduate student experiences and their graduate studies. Pizza will be provided by the Graduate College.
   
   Registration is encouraged: [https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WpasSLlT4NeSuV](https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WpasSLlT4NeSuV)
   
   Contact lisa-kelly@uiowa.edu for more information.

2. **First Generation Graduate and Professional Student and Post-doc Social**
   - **Thursday, November 8**th
   - **12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**
   - **Location: Seebohm Conference Room EMRB**
   
   This is an opportunity for first-generation graduate and professional students to gather, network, and discuss how first-generation status impacts their experience in graduate and professional school. Pizza will be provided by the Graduate College. This event is co-sponsored by the Carver College of Medicine Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.
   
   Registration is encouraged: [https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WpasSLlT4NeSuV](https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WpasSLlT4NeSuV)
   
   Contact lisa-kelly@uiowa.edu for more information.

3. **Understanding the First Generation College Experience: Strategies TAs Can Use in the Classroom**
   - **Friday, November 9**th
   - **3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**
   - **Location: PBB W401**
   
   Participants will learn about characteristics of first-generation college students and how first-generation students experience the University of Iowa. We will present information from UI student surveys as well as research on academic support for first-generation college students. The facilitators will also provide strategies that can be used to promote academic success. Refreshments (cookies) will be provided.
   
   Registration is encouraged: [https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WpasSLlT4NeSuV](https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WpasSLlT4NeSuV)
   
   Contact lisa-kelly@uiowa.edu for more information.

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**Active Learning Throughout the Semester** - Center for Teaching is hosting a workshop on **Friday, October 26, 2018 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm** called “Active Learning Throughout the Semester.” This workshop will present active learning strategies of varying complexity that can spark student learning across the arc of the semester, regardless of the discipline. Registration can be found here.

**Graduate College News**

**2017-18 Graduate College Annual Report**  [https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/report/2017-18](https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/report/2017-18)