2016 Philanthropic Award Competitions

The deadline to apply for the Graduate School Philanthropic Awards is March 1, 2016. GPDs and faculty should recruit students for these awards. Visit the Graduate School website for a list of these outstanding opportunities.

New this year- Students will apply for these awards using the new scholarship portal, NinerScholars. Login access is provided on the University Scholarship webpage at http://scholarships.uncc.edu. Students will create a profile and then be matched to scholarships/fellowships that they are eligible to apply for through a system using real time information from Banner. Once students are matched, they choose which scholarships/fellowships they want to apply for and complete all required materials within the portal. Through the portal, students are able to upload documents, complete essays, submit reference requests, and submit their applications electronically, in one place.

Administrators and scholarship committee members will gain access to students’ applications through the NinerScholars Scholarship Review and Award portals. Here administrators and reviewers can electronically review students’ applications, uploaded materials, and essays. Through these portals reviewers will make award recommendations and administrators will key the awards to the students’ accounts.

Application Requirements
1. Half-page autobiographical sketch  
2. Two-page (maximum) dissertation synopsis written for a “lay audience;” synopsis must address significance of the student’s research to a field of study listed in the Appendix of the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Fields of Study  
3. Academic timeline with projected date of completion – provide date of proposal defense  
4. Letter of support from student’s advisor addressing how student meets program objectives and eligibility requirements (three-page limit)  
5. Letter of endorsement from department chair or graduate program director
Call for Nominations for Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards

The Graduate School is now accepting nominations for Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards 2015-2016. Exemplary commitment to the craft of teaching is the foundation for this award to a graduate student who exhibits outstanding mastery of both teaching concepts and of his/her content area. The Graduate School is delighted to call for nominations for the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award. Please note: one award will be given to the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant at the Master’s level and one award will be given to the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant at the Doctoral level. Click here for more information and the application.

DegreeWorks Pilot Programs Launch February 1

An email communication was sent to all pilot faculty on 1/20/16. It contains important information about how faculty and students will access DegreeWorks beginning on February 1st. A separate email has been sent to students providing this information. Please review this email and direct any questions to degreeworks@uncc.edu.

In order to gain access to DegreeWorks, faculty must attend a training session. Training will help faculty understand the features of the degree plan. The following DegreeWorks training sessions have been scheduled:
- Thursday, 2/4 at 1:00
- Thursday, 2/18 at 1:00
- Thursday, 3/3 at 1:00
- Thursday, 3/17 at 1:00
- Thursday, 3/31 at 1:00
- Thursday, 4/14 at 1:00
- Thursday, 4/28 at 1:00

All training sessions will be held in Denny 101. Please email Janet Morse, jmorse9@uncc.edu to register or with any questions.

Graduate Enrollment Management Outreach and Planning

Graduate Enrollment Management
Graduate Enrollment Management (GEM) is managed at UNC Charlotte by a collaborative work group whose mission is to help develop, communicate, and evaluate well-planned strategies to proactively shape graduate enrollment at UNC Charlotte in an effort to meet established enrollment goals. In support of Graduate Program Director efforts to recruit, enroll, retain, and graduate a diverse and exemplary graduate class, members of the Admissions and Enrollment Management staff are available for one-on-one and/or group meetings to support efforts to develop program-specific GEM Plans.

electronic Graduate Enrollment Management (eGEM) System Launched

www.egem.uncc.edu
The eGEM system is used to submit annual enrollment and graduation projections. Colleges have varying methods to populate the data, but every graduate program director has VIEW access to the projections once they are submitted. In the very near future, functionality to build and maintain program specific Graduate Enrollment Plans will be rolled out, so stay tuned for additional information. For questions about the system, contact Aaron Forsyth in the Graduate School. For questions about the process, contact Johnna Watson.
Deadlines

Graduation Deadlines
Please note the deadline to apply for Spring 2016 graduation was January 21st.

February 18, 2016 - Proposal Defense Form for master’s thesis students, along with IRB/IACUC approval (if required).
March 4, 2016 - Midterm Grades for Spring 2016
March 10, 2016 - Dissertation formatting review deadline (contact Anita Smith)
March 21, 2016 - Last day to withdraw from a course for Spring 2016
April 7, 2016 - Dissertation or Scholarly Project defense deadline for doctoral students

GASP Eligibility Deadlines
Each student must be admitted, nominated for GASP, approved by the Graduate School to receive GASP support, registered for at least 9 credit hours, and have a qualifying assistantship or fellowship appointment no later than 5 p.m. on the census date (the tenth day of classes) for the semester. All GASP Scholars are expected to register for 9 or more credit hours until they have defended their dissertations. Review GASP Rules and Practices HERE as well as online at http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/faculty-and-staff/funding-information-faculty.

The Office of Academic Affairs and the Center for Teaching and Learning collaborates with Ph.D. programs and the Graduate School to offer a Provost Doctoral Teaching Fellowship. The purpose of the Provost Doctoral Teaching Fellowship program is to introduce doctoral students to the teaching practices used in higher education instruction and to help prepare them to pursue careers in college-level teaching. Applicants must be a Ph.D. student in a doctoral program at UNC Charlotte with a demonstrated interest in an academic career. A graduate assistantship commitment from the applicant’s department is required. See the 2016-2017 Application and more information.

Recruitment, Admissions, and Funding Updates

Recruitment, Admissions, and Funding Resources
Graduate School staff are available to support your recruitment and admissions efforts. Many program directors offer information sessions, open houses, early entry, accelerated master’s, GRE searches, and also utilize social media, and admissions/enrollment counselors can provide guidance on how to implement successful strategies. Access to and training for eGRAD are also available for you, staff and admissions committee members, as well as dedicated staff to support funding and assistantship efforts. Please reach out to one of the individuals listed below:

- Maryanne Maree-Sams, recruitment & admissions, 704-687-7243, mmareesa@uncc.edu
- Marianne Williford, recruitment & admissions, 704-687-7245, mwillif4@uncc.edu
- Allison Brinkley, recruitment & admissions for Business Programs, 704-687-7267, abrinkley@uncc.edu
- Ash Bowers, eGRAD access for staff and committee members, at abower16@uncc.edu
- Kathy Giddings, eGRAD training reservation for one of the dates below, at kathygiddings@uncc.edu
  - *Thursday, February 11, 2016, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. EST
  - Thursday, March 10, 2016, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. EST
- Tequilla Bennett, assistantship, at TCBennett@uncc.edu
- Melissa “Missy” Peterson, funding, at MelissaPeterson@uncc.edu
Subscribe to an Automated Applicant Data Report

The Graduate School has an automated report that will provide you a snapshot of applicant data for your program(s), including test scores and education history. In addition to submitted applications, the report includes data for applications still “in progress”. The report is currently available to College Deans, Graduate Program Directors and others who submit admissions recommendations on behalf of programs. To subscribe to the automated report, please contact Ash Bowers in the Graduate School.

Graduate Applications Snapshot as of 1-28-2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Application Status</th>
<th>FALL 2016</th>
<th>2015 (census)</th>
<th>SUMMER 1 2016</th>
<th>2015 (census)</th>
<th>SUMMER 2 2016</th>
<th>2015 (census)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Apps</td>
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<td>In-Progress (not submitted)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intends to Enroll</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>587</td>
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<td>218</td>
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<td>579</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Graduate Academic Affairs Updates

Graduation

Full graduation checklists for both master’s and doctoral students are now available on the Graduate School’s website http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/current-students/graduation.

Graduation Clearance

For the Spring 2016 term, graduation will be managed by:
Doctoral students - Julie Green; gradgraduation-doctoral@uncc.edu
Master’s thesis and non-thesis: James Birkett; gradgraduation-masters@uncc.edu
Graduate Certificate - Anita Smith; gradgraduation-certs@uncc.edu
General graduation inquiries - Misty Auton; gradgraduation@uncc.edu

Forms

The Graduate School has recently revised and/or combined some of the forms for master’s and doctoral students. All of these forms can be found at http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/current-students/forms.
Defense Report for Doctoral Dissertation and/or Master’s Thesis/Project
Proposal Defense for Doctoral Dissertation and/or Master’s Thesis/Project (formerly the Petition for Topic Approval)
Remote Participation Approval form for Doctoral and Master’s
Report of Comprehensive/Qualifying Exam, Portfolio Presentation, and Study Report for Doctoral and/or Master’s Student
Submission and ETD Signature Form for Dissertation/Thesis
Center for Graduate Life Updates and Upcoming Events

Special Announcements

2016-2017 Graduate Life Fellow Application Now Available - Submission deadline: March 1

The Graduate Life Fellows (GLFs) are a group of continuing master's and doctoral-level students who offer guidance and promote engagement through first-hand experience, peer mentorship and graduate student events. Each Fellow receives a monetary award in exchange for their contributions toward enhancing the graduate community at UNC Charlotte.

The Graduate School's Center for Graduate Life is now accepting GLF applications for the 2016-2017 academic year. Please read all eligibility requirements carefully: Application and Information. The fellowship may accompany an assistantship. Submission deadline is Monday, March 1, 2016. http://gradlife.uncc.edu/grad-life-fellows

Workshops & Events (all held in the Center for Grad Life unless otherwise noted). Registration can be accessed: gradlife.uncc.edu/events

Dissertation Day: Overcoming Procrastination
Friday, February 6, 10:00am-4:00pm
Dissertation Days are offered on the first Friday of each month. These writing retreats provide an opportunity for doctoral students to devote focused time and attention to one goal—making progress on their dissertations. Dissertation Days provide structured writing time, offer writing-related support and resources and promote community among dissertation writers.

Using Self-Compassion to Handle Emotionally-Challenging Times
Monday, February 8, 12:30pm-2:00pm
Facilitated by: Dr. Jennifer Webb, Associate Professor, Psychology, UNC Charlotte
Do you often engage in negative self-talk? Do you substitute meals with a cup of coffee? Have you been procrastinating on starting that huge research paper? You know you need to make some serious changes to how you respond to stress as a result of grad school, work, family or otherwise. In this workshop, participants will learn the latest research evidence supporting self-compassion as an adaptive approach to self-regulation, as well as engage in self-compassion practices developed by internationally renowned mindfulness and self-compassion scholar practitioners. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their experiences and learn more about additional self-compassion resources.

Working With Your Advisor and Mentor: Do Cultural and Gender Differences Matter?
Wednesday, February 10, 12:30pm-2:00pm
Facilitated by Dr. Jo Ann Lee, Faculty for Graduate Research and Ethics. Professor Emerita of Psychology.
What are the differences between an advisor and a mentor? Navigating relationships with these persons can be tricky. Yet, these relationships have major impacts on the productivity of a student’s graduate career. Do cultural and gender differences play a role? This workshop will address issues such as: choosing a mentor, expectations of the mentee-mentor relationship, expectations of the advisee-advisor relationship, as well as handling conflict and uncomfortable situations. Discussion of case studies and role-playing will be used.

Write it Out! (1:00-4:00pm at either location)
February 12 - Center for Graduate Life & February 19 - Writing Resources Center (Cameron 125)
“Write it Out!” is a bi-monthly event designed to provide graduate students with a quiet space and dedicated time
to write. Thesis writers, dissertation writers, and writers at any stage in their work, are invited to participate in this collaborative program between the CGL and the WRC. Registration is not required.

**How to Write a Teaching Philosophy**  
**Wednesday, February 17, 12:30pm - 2:00pm**  
Facilitated by: Dr. Judith Krauss, Faculty for Graduate Teaching, Center for Graduate Life
This workshop will present suggestions for writing a personal teaching philosophy. Teaching philosophies are often requested at academic job interviews and, even if you've never taught, creating one can be a helpful exercise for your professional development. Open to all graduate students and postdoctoral researchers.

**Gender Bias in Academia Part II: A Student's Guide to Getting Ahead**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 9:00am-12:00pm, Halton Room, Atkins Library**  
This workshop is for women in graduate school and focuses on issues that female students encounter upon entering the job market. This workshop prepares female students for the job search and educates them about negotiation. The goal of this workshops is to empower women in graduate programs across campus so they can take a more active role in their future, leading to success in their graduate program, as well as in their pursuit of a professional career. CoSponsored By the Center for Graduate Life Fellows, GPSG, and ADVANCE.

**The Art of Negotiating in the Workplace**  
**February 26, 2016 - 10:00am - 12:30pm**  
Whether you are involved in a salary negotiation or terms of an employment contract, negotiation is a skill every graduate student should learn. In contrast to common thought, negotiation skills aren't simply a series of compromises. Rather, effective negotiators employ a combination of positive communication skills including active listening skills and the ability to adapt to others' communication styles. In this workshop, participants will learn about their own negotiation styles as well as how to improve their skills through practical exercises. Strategies designed to manage tensions will also be reviewed.

**On-going Programs and Support in the CGL**  
**Writing Assistance for Graduate Students**  
**Mondays-Wednesdays: 2:00-5:00pm and Thursdays: 1:00-5:00pm**  
**Book an Appointment**

**Individual Research Consultations - Project Mosaic**  
**Mondays: 1:00-3:30pm and Wednesdays: 4:00-6:00pm**  
Contact ceohara@uncc.edu for more information.

**Monday Mindfulness & Yoga**  
**Begins January 25, 11:00am-12:00pm**  
**Drop in!**

**Dissertation Writing Support**  
Please email Dr. Russell-Pinson (lpinson@uncc.edu) to arrange an appointment. Doctoral students only, please.

**Our Doctoral Writing Fellow is Available to Help all Doctoral Students**  
Each semester, the Graduate School funds a Doctoral Writing Fellow to work one-on-one with other doctoral students. The Doctoral Writing Fellow for Spring 2016 is J. Haadi Jafarian, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Software and Information Services. Haadi is a stellar academic writer who has published widely in his field of study. He is available to provide peer tutoring to other doctoral students interested in improving their academic writing for coursework, presentation, and publication. Please email Haadi (gradlifefellows@uncc.edu) to set up an appointment.
**Ombudsman for Graduate Students**

The Ombudsman for graduate students is available to meet with students on a confidential basis. The Ombudsman provides guidance on process and policies, while directing students to appropriate resources. Dr. Julie Goodliffe, Interim Director of the Center for Graduate Life, currently serves as Ombudsman. She can be reached through the CGL.

**Encourage your Prospective Early Entry Students to Apply for the Charlotte Research Scholars Program**

Entering their fifth year, the Charlotte Research Scholars (CRS) are now accepting applications for summer 2016. The CRS is a summer research program for high-achieving undergraduate students to gain research experience and professional development in their field of interest. The CRS will provide funding to more than 50 UNC Charlotte rising seniors to participate in a 10-week program. The CRS is supported by UNC Charlotte's Office of Academic Affairs, the Graduate School, the Charlotte Research Institute, and the Duke Endowment Special Initiatives Fund. Please visit the CRS web page at [http://graduateschool.uncc.edu](http://graduateschool.uncc.edu) for the online application and additional information.