Upcoming Deadlines

Final Date for Submitting Spring Applications (for a degree program)  January 1
Deadline for Admission Recommendations  January 11

Academic events and deadlines can be found in the academic calendar: http://registrar.uncc.edu/calendar

Graduate Enrollment Management (GEM)

Graduate Programs to be Selected for Funding

Graduate Program Directors successfully completed 2017-2019 goal-setting in eGEM, identifying enrollment and graduation projections and establishing graduate enrollment management plans to achieve the projections.

Programs with completed projections and plans were reviewed by Graduate School staff to identify strategic opportunities for funding consideration. Those recommendations soon will be reviewed with senior academic leadership and funding information will be shared with program recipients.

“We really appreciate the dedication our GPDs showed to submit enrollment and graduation projections and associated plans in a timely manner,” said Associate Dean Johnna Watson. “It is equally important that we continue to focus on the enrollment management plans as we enter 2017 to proactively recruit, enroll, retain and graduate students.”

For training, questions or comments, contact Johnna Watson, JohnnaWatson@uncc.edu.

Recruitment and Admissions

Register by January 10 for National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Memphis

The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) will be held April 6-8 on the campus of The University of Memphis, featuring the Graduate School Expo April 6-7.

More than 4,000 high-achieving undergraduate students are expected to attend the Conference from across the country to present their research and creative projects. More information about NCUR can be found at http://www.cur.org/ncur_2017/.

The Graduate School has a table registered for the Expo and invites anyone interested to attend. For more information on the NCUR Expo, visit http://www.cur.org/ncur_2017/fair_registration__vendors__exhibitors/.
The deadline date to register for the Expo is February 1, 2017 but registrations will go fast. If you are interested in attending, please contact Maryanne Maree-Sams, Graduate Enrollment Counselor, MaryanneMaree-Sams@uncc.edu, by 5 p.m., Tuesday, January 10.

**Graduate Academic Affairs**

**Check DegreeWorks for Inaccurate Audits**

Graduate faculty serving as advisors should verify that the audits are accurate for their students in DegreeWorks.

“Audits reflect the approved curriculum in the Graduate Catalog, so if your program sees a repeated error, please check the catalog to make sure the course or rule is included,” said Katherine Hall-Hertel, Associate Dean for Graduate Student Affairs.

Hall-Hertel also said students may be submitting more requests than necessary to update degree audits. “In some cases, students need multiple course substitutions or exceptions in order to update their audit,” she said. “When there are multiple requests of the same type, they should be included on only one petition.”

DegreeWorks can be accessed through my.uncc.edu and will automatically display students you advise upon log-on. To verify the list is correct in Banner, please review the instructions at http://advising.uncc.edu/advisor/banner/option-a. More information on DegreeWorks, including training opportunities, can be found at graduateschool.uncc.edu/DegreeWorks.

**Students Driving DegreeWorks Usage**

![Graduate DegreeWorks Usage Chart](chart.png)

Shown above are the number of students and advisors who accessed DegreeWorks over the past six weeks. While representing a relatively small percentage of overall graduate enrollment, the chart shows that students are driving DegreeWorks usage. “We see this also in the number of petitions that have been processed,” said Janet Morse, DegreeWorks Project Manager. “DegreeWorks is the definitive source for graduation clearance.”

**Committee Section to be Added to DegreeWorks**

Students who have formed either a master thesis or doctoral dissertation committee will soon have a new section displayed on their DegreeWorks audit showing the members of their committee.

This enhancement will be available in the Spring 2017 term.
The committee section serves a receipt confirmation and allows others to see who is on the student’s committee. For more information, contact Janet Morse, Degree Works Project Manager, jmorse9@uncc.edu.

**Students Can Submit Their Own Dissertation Defense Announcements**

Students can now submit their own Dissertation Defense Announcements at http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/current-students/graduation/submit-your-dissertation-defense-announcement. In the future, this updated link to the Graduate School’s Dissertation Defense Announcements will be used instead of distributing the entire list.

**Funding Opportunities**

**Application Deadline Set for Thomas L. Reynolds Graduate Student Research Award**

Applications for the Reynolds Graduate Student Research Award must be submitted between March 1-April 1, 2017.

The award of up to $1,500 supports research projects and can be used for books, travel, materials and supplies or other qualified expenses. The award is offered through the Graduate School to support exceptionally talented graduate students.

For more information and how to apply, visit http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/funding/graduate-school-funding. Questions may be directed to Christi Skerlak, Executive Assistant to the Dean, cskerlak@uncc.edu.

**Fall 2017 Funding Opportunities Available for New Students**

Three funding opportunities are available for new doctoral, master’s, and certificate students enrolling Fall 2017.

The three include:
- GASP – provides tuition plus health insurance premium support
- Master’s Merit Award – a two-year award that is auto-renewed
- Graduate School Grant – a cash award for Master’s and Certificate students.

For details visit: http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/faculty-and-staff/funding-information-faculty or email Dr. Julie Goodliffe, Director of Fellowships and Funding, jmgoodli@uncc.edu.

Dr. Goodliffe is available on Tuesdays from 3:30-5 p.m. to help enrolled students locate and apply for competitive fellowships. For an updated list of upcoming fellowship deadlines, visit: http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/funding.

**Veteran Assistantships Available for 2017**

For the third year, the Graduate School is offering assistantships designated exclusively for veteran students beginning graduate studies in Fall 2017.

Each two-year assistantship is valued at $37,000 (master’s degree) to $49,000 (doctoral degree) and includes full tuition, health insurance and an assistantship stipend (tuition and health insurance are not provided if paid through veteran benefit programs).

For more information contact Dr. Alan Freitag, Assistant Dean, arfreita@uncc.edu.

**Philanthropic Award Competitions Require GPD Nomination**

Three donor-supported fellowships for new students this year require a Graduate Program Director nomination.

Students cannot access these fellowships directly.
Those requiring GPD nomination are the:

- Wayland H. Cato Jr. First-Year Graduate Fellowship
- Herschel and Cornelia Everett Foundation First-Year Graduate Fellowship for a Master’s Student
- Herschel and Cornelia Everett Foundation First-Year Graduate Fellowship for a Doctoral Student.

In addition, eligible students will be matched to the remaining fellowships, which include:

- Lucille P. and Edward C. Giles Graduate School Dissertation-Year Fellowship
- Joanna R. Baker Memorial Graduate Fellowship
- Dr. Craig R. Brown Graduate Fellowship
- DRReaM Graduate Fellowship
- Faye Jacques Memorial Graduate Fellowship
- John Paul Lucas, Jr. Scholarship for Educational Leadership
- Zonta Club Scholarship.

The deadline for completed applications is March 1, 2017, with the exception of the Giles Dissertation-Year Fellowship which has a deadline of April 15, 2017. Students and faculty can access the awards from http://scholarships.uncc.edu/.

**Full Travel Funding Available for Fulbright Outreach Lecturing Fund**

Fulbright's Outreach Lecturing Fund (http://www.cies.org/program/outreach-lecturing-fund) provides full travel funding for Fulbright Visiting Scholars to speak to your classes and participate in academic events you might be planning. This collaborative effort is designed to enrich cultural understanding among Fulbright Scholars, students, and faculty.

Visit [http://www.cies.org/](http://www.cies.org/) to learn more about the program and to explore the directory of visiting scholars. Contact Alan Freitag in the Graduate School, arfreita@uncc.edu or by phone x77312 with questions.

**Center for Graduate Life**

**New Leadership Course Launches this Month**

Graduate students can get a sneak peek at the life of a business leader in a course titled, “Essentials for Success and Work Life Through Leadership” (GRAD 6040, 2 credits).

The all-new course is available at the Center for Graduate Life, Cone 269 on Wednesdays from 3:15-5:15 p.m.

Keith Andrews, experienced trainer and coach with over 30 years of industrial experience, shares his insights into the major challenges professionals face in today’s workplace. Some topics include: conflict resolution, motivation, leading and managing, organizational culture, problem solving and innovation in the workplace. Regardless of discipline of study, understanding these concepts will improve one’s contribution to their organization and enhance work life.

*Seats are still available for GRAD 6030, Workplace Communications.* Encourage students to take this eight-week course that emphasizes communication techniques used in corporate settings. This is an excellent course for students contemplating work in industry or corporate settings.

For a complete list of available courses through the Center for Graduate Life, go to [http://gradlife.uncc.edu/what-we-offer/academic-courses](http://gradlife.uncc.edu/what-we-offer/academic-courses).

**Graduate Teaching Assistant Classroom and Online Training Available**

Online training is now available to ensure Graduate Teaching Assistants have the necessary information and policies needed for their training role, including FERPA, Discrimination/ADA, Common First Amendment Issues and more. The training is required by UNC Charlotte.
Face-to-face workshops will be held throughout January. For information, visit http://gradlife.uncc.edu/teaching-assistants and check the gradlife.uncc.edu/events calendar.

Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition January 19

An 80,000-word dissertation can take nine hours to present. Come watch our students do it in three minutes.

The Graduate School invites you to attend our Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition pilot in the Halton Reading Room, Atkins Library, January 19, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. RSVP at http://gradlife.uncc.edu/events/three-minute-thesis-3mt-competition.

Grad Life Fellows “Pouch Project” Fills Backpacks

On January 28, you can help The Graduate Life Fellows replenish a child's backpack with the basic school supplies they need to succeed in the classroom.

The Fellows will be assembling pencil pouches, art kits, STEM kits and wellness kits using funds raised from the Fall UNC Charlotte's Got Your Back crowdfunding initiative which netted $2,500 in donations.

The group also will be writing letters of encouragement to the next generation of students in higher education.

Food will be provided for volunteers. The project will be held in After Hours Cone University Center beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Judges Sought for 17th Annual Graduate Research Symposium (GRS)

The Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) invites graduate students to submit abstracts for the Graduate Research Symposium by February 3. The GRS will be held March 27.

The Symposium is a student-run conference which showcases the latest graduate student research. More information is available at http://suar.orgsync.com/org/gpsguncc/GRS

GPSG also is seeking graduate faculty to participate as judges in the poster and oral presentations. Judges would need to be on site 9:00-12:30 for the morning session; and from 11:30-3:30 for the afternoon session. Judging rubrics will be provided at the start of each session. We encourage all graduate faculty to participate by signing up here: https://docs.google.com/a/uncc.edu/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeldoJwQ8OVE3FMiDUmV4F7Mwq1c5PTlpTNRa7GNYYD-AUoSg/viewform?c=0&w=1.

# # #

The GPD Newsletter is available for download on the Graduate School's website.