The Graduate School Program Director Newsletter
March 2017

Table of Contents
Important Dates  1
Graduate Academic Affairs  1
Recruitment and Admissions  2
Funding Opportunities  4
Center for Graduate Life  5

Important Dates

• Spring Dissertation Boot Camp registration deadline – Mar. 3
• Academic Year 2017-18 GASP Renewal Confirmations Due – Mar. 6
• Dissertation formatting review deadline – Mar. 10
• Graduate Life Fellows application deadline – Mar. 13
• Donor-Supported Fellowship awards application deadline – Mar. 15
• Nominations deadline for fall assistantships and funding – Mar. 15
• Last day to withdraw from a course – Mar. 20
• Funding nomination deadline for new students – Apr. 1
• Priority Deadline for 1st summer admission – Apr. 1
• Dissertation defense deadline – Apr. 7
• National signing day/deadline for funded students to accept offers – Apr. 15
• Dissertation submission deadline – Apr. 17
• Master’s thesis defense deadline – Apr. 28
• Priority Deadline for 2017 2nd summer admission — May 1
• Secondary funding nomination deadline – May 15

More dates and events are at http://registrar.uncc.edu/calendar and http://gradlife.uncc.edu/events.

Graduate Academic Affairs

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistants Named in April

The Graduate School will host a reception in honor of the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award recipients for 2016-2017 on Apr. 21. The deadline for nomination is Mar. 3.

The Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award recognizes teaching skills supported by strong student evaluations. Awards are at the Doctoral and Master's levels. For more information, visit http://gradlife.uncc.edu/resources/graduate-student-competitions.
Student Use of DegreeWorks Strong; Advisor Use Growing

Student usage of DegreeWorks continued to grow over Fall Semester. Of the 5,317 graduate students enrolled for fall 2016, 3,886 (73%) accessed their DegreeWorks audit at some point during the semester. Advisor usage increased as the spring semester began.

2017 OneTeam Leadership Experience Scheduled

The Graduate School is looking for four exceptional students who want to uncover how their experiences shape their leadership style and use these insights to acquire influential and authentic leadership skills.

The dates for the Leadership Experience workshop are April 24-26 with a follow-up session on May 24. The Graduate School covers the fee to attend ($2,000).

Contact Coren O’Hara, ceohara@uncc.edu, to nominate a student. For more information, visit http://oneteamleadership.com.

Recruitment & Admissions

Summer/Fall 2017 Admissions Applications Down

Overall, applications submitted for summer/fall 2017 compared to the same period last year are down over 7%. International applications, primarily to master’s programs, are down 14% while domestic applications are up 6%. The good news? Offers of admission are up over 22%, by 295, compared to this time last year. For details on your program of study, see the report in eGEM.

GRE Search Service Delivers the Right Prospective Students

It is easy and cost effective to identify and communicate with prospective students who have demonstrated graduate level readiness through their GRE performance.

The GRE Search Service can help maximize recruitment results via a database of 500,000+ prospective graduate school students. With more than 30 search criteria to choose from, you can create targeted recruitment campaigns to help achieve your program’s enrollment projections. Contact Maryanne Maree-Sams, MaryanneMaree-Sams@uncc.edu, for more information.

Diversity Recruitment Opportunities

Check out the following conferences for professional development and recruiting:
• **Council on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) – Apr. 6-8, Memphis**  A showcase of the best in undergraduate research with over 4,000 students participating in oral presentations and poster presentations: [http://www.cur.org/ncur_2017/](http://www.cur.org/ncur_2017/).

• **Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) – Oct. 19-21, Salt Lake City UT**  This national conference motivates, inspires and engages over 4,000 participants to achieve their highest goals in pursuing education and careers in STEM fields: [www.sacnas.org](http://www.sacnas.org).

• **Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) – Nov. 1-4, Phoenix**  Supporting undergraduates’ development as future scientists, this conference presents an excellent opportunity to meet and recruit science-oriented undergraduate students from underrepresented groups in the biomedical sciences: [www.abrcms.org](http://www.abrcms.org).

• **Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) – Nov. 1-5, Kansas City**  Over 6,600 people attended the 2016 conference held on the UNC Charlotte campus, which included four days of interactive programming, professional networking and competitions: [www.shpe.org](http://www.shpe.org).

• **McNair Scholars Research Conference – June 22-25, Atlanta**  This conference gives scholars an opportunity to network with faculty, graduate school staff and their peers and receive invaluable information about the graduate school application process: [www.mcnairscholars.com](http://www.mcnairscholars.com).

**Immigration Updates**

The International Student Scholar Office (ISSO) maintains a website to keep campus constituents apprised of developments regarding immigration matters, particularly regarding immigration policy or regulation changes: [http://isso.uncc.edu/home/important-immigration-information](http://isso.uncc.edu/home/important-immigration-information).

**Useful Data Resources**

Following are resources for applicant and enrollment data, retention and completion rates.

- **eGEM** - Current and historical enrollment and graduation reports are in your program dashboard in under the Program Data tab: [https://egem.uncc.edu](https://egem.uncc.edu).

- **Fact Book** - The Office of Institutional Research produces the Fact Book, which contains current and historical enrollment data: [http://ir.uncc.edu/fact-book](http://ir.uncc.edu/fact-book).

- **Institutional Research (IR)** - Before reporting data externally, please consult with the Office of Institutional Research: [http://ir.uncc.edu/](http://ir.uncc.edu/).

**Update eGRAD Access**

Spring is a great time to review your admissions committee members who need access to eGRAD. If you need a reminder of the current roster, contact Ash Bowers ([abower16@uncc.edu](mailto:abower16@uncc.edu)).

**Funding Opportunities**

**Donor-Supported Fellowship Application Deadline Extended**

Applications for donor-supported fellowships can be submitted through March 15, 2017.

The donor-supported fellowships for new students are available only if a Graduate Program Director nominates them. Students cannot access these fellowships directly.
Those requiring GPD nomination are the:

- Wayland H. Cato Jr. First-Year Graduate Fellowship
- Everett Foundation First-Year Graduate Fellowship for a master’s student
- Everett Foundation First-Year Graduate Fellowship for a doctoral student.

To nominate a student, visit https://ninerscholars.uncc.edu/Nominate/. Once you submit the nomination, the fellowship will appear as an award to which students can apply. It is important to submit nominations soon to give students time to complete a competitive application.

Students will be matched for all other philanthropic awards based on eligibility criteria. Applicants must have an application profile in the NinerScholars Portal to apply. Deadline to apply is Mar. 15, except for the Giles Fellowship, which has an Apr. 15 deadline.

More information is available at http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/funding/graduate-school-funding.

**Reynolds Graduate Student Research Award Applications Accepted through Apr. 1**

The application window for the Thomas L. Reynolds Graduate Student Research Award is from Mar. 1-Apr.1, 2017. More information is available at http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/funding/graduate-school-funding.

**Apr. 1 Deadline Set for Fall Semester Funding Opportunities**

Three funding opportunities are available for new doctoral, master’s, and certificate students enrolling Fall Semester 2017, each with a priority deadline of Apr.1.

The three include:

- GASP – provides tuition plus health insurance premium support for doctoral students
- Master’s Merit Award – a two-year award that requires an assistantship
- Graduate School Grant – a one-year award that does not require an assistantship.

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.

**Applications Accepted for 2018-19 Fulbright programs**

The deadline is Aug. 1 to apply for Fulbright programs for the 2018-19 academic year.

This is the time to encourage your students to consider Fulbright opportunities including English Teaching Assistant fellowships and graduate research/study fellowships.

Students can find details on eligibility and the application process here: http://gradlife.uncc.edu/resources/fulbright-fellowship.

An information session on the Fulbright fellowship features Dr. Alan Freitag of the Graduate School, who has completed two Fulbright fellowships, will discuss Fulbright opportunities for students, merits of participation, and the Fulbright application process. The event is Mar. 22, 4:00-5:00 PM, Center for Graduate Life, Cone 268.
For more information, please visit http://awards.cies.org/ or contact Alan Freitag in the Graduate School (x77312).

**Veteran Assistantship Applications due Mar. 15**

The deadline for nominating a student for a Graduate School Veteran Assistantship is Mar. 15. Please forward nominations to Dr. Alan Freitag, Assistant Dean, arfreita@uncc.edu.

Information on Veteran Assistantships can be found at http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/funding/graduate-school-funding.

**Available Assistantships**

The Graduate School is happy to help advertise graduate assistantship opportunities: http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/funding/assistantships-and-employment/available-assistantships

**Center for Graduate Life**

**Ombudsman for Graduate Students Appointed**

Dr. Bruce Taylor, College of Education, recently was named Ombudsman for graduate students. Dr. Taylor can address a range of issues with students on a confidential basis. For more information, please visit http://gradlife.uncc.edu/resources/ombudsman. Contact Dr. Taylor by email at b.taylor@uncc.edu.

**Required Training for Teaching Assistants Provided by CGL**

The Center for Graduate Life offers Teaching Assistant training in a fully online format, and invites new GTAs into the Canvas-based training at the start of the fall and spring semesters.

This training, a UNC Charlotte accreditation standards requirement, covers vital topics such as legal rights and responsibilities (FERPA, ADA, Title IX, and others), campus safety, and general strategies for grading, teaching, and classroom management.

Attendance is tracked to comply with accreditation standards. This training does not replace or overlap any discipline-specific or program-based training. Please encourage new TAs to complete the on-line training.

For more information, visit gradlife.uncc.edu/teaching-assistants/ta-training-resources

**Spring Dissertation Boot Camp Mar. 7-10**

The spring Dissertation Boot Camp Mar. 7-10 will provide a great opportunity for doctoral students to make significant progress on their dissertation. The boot camps offer a quiet space to work, structured writing time, and writing-related resources and support. For more information, visit http://gradlife.uncc.edu/events/spring-dissertation-boot-camp-1.

**Personalized Dissertation Support Available**

Learn strategies for managing the dissertation process, as well as how to plan, draft and revise dissertation writing and much more. Support is available Mon.-Wed. by appointment. Contact Dr. Lisa Russell-Pinson, Faculty Associate for Writing at lpinson@uncc.edu.
Support also is available from the Center’s Doctoral Writing Fellow, Haadi Jafarian. Contact Haadi at gradlifefellows@uncc.edu.

Applications for Graduate Life Fellows Close Mar. 13

The Graduate School will be accepting applications for Graduate Life Fellows (GLFs) through Mar. 13.

Up to five GLFs from various programs and degree levels will be appointed. Each GLF receives an award of $5,000, which may accompany a graduate assistantship.

For more information, visit http://gradlife.uncc.edu/grad-life-fellows.

Upcoming Events at the CGL: Register Here

Negotiating Strategies for Women in Academic Careers
March 14, 2:00-4:00 PM, College of Health & Human Services, 128
Facilitated by: Dr. Yvette Huet, Professor of Kinesiology and Director, ADVANCE Faculty Affairs and Diversity Office. This interactive workshop will focus on topics for women seeking employment, such as creating your brand, building confidence and negotiating the job offer.

Mentoring in the Professional Work Environment: A Panel and Reception
March 23, 4:30-6:00 PM, Center for Graduate Life, Cone 268
This event includes a panel discussion about professional mentoring skills employers expect. Immediately following the panel will be a reception where participants and speakers can meet. For more information, please contact daniel.jones@uncc.edu

Using LinkedIn in the Job Search
March 29, 4:00-5:00 PM, Center for Graduate Life, Cone 268
Dr. Patrick Madsen, University Career Center
With more than 10 million users worldwide, LinkedIn’s network has become the essential source of everything from connecting with past colleagues to introducing yourself to potential employers to finding new employment leads. This presentation will focus on using LinkedIn in job search and for managing your contacts.

Graduate Research Symposium
March 27th, 10:00 – 3:00, Student Union
The Graduate and Professional Student Government will host this annual research competition showcasing work from master’s and doctoral students. For more information, see http://suar.orgsync.com/org/gpsguncc/GRS.

# # #

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