

# K-State Graduate School

## Weekly Newsletter

**February 11, 2020** [Events and Deadlines](#)

This newsletter is distributed to department heads, graduate program directors, graduate program contact staff, and graduate faculty.

### **Graduate Program Directors**

#### **Important Testing Update from the GRE, TOEFL, and IELTS Programs**

ETS and the Chinese National Education Examinations Authority (NEEA) have canceled all GRE® and TOEFL® test administrations in Mainland China through the end of February. This is due to concern for the health and safety of our test takers and test center staff in response to the escalation on January 26, 2020, to a Level One Public Health Emergency Response by the Provincial Governments in China. ETS has also suspended test administrations in Hong Kong through February 16, 2020. At this time, test administrations in all other locations will take place as scheduled. hat all colleges and universities understand that this delay is through no fault of the test taker. ETS is closely following national and local developments and will alert institutions if there are any significant changes.

The IELTS Partners are monitoring the Coronavirus situation very closely and are taking relevant measures to protect the health of test takers and colleagues in affected areas, in line with the advice of national healthcare authorities.

- All IELTS and IELTS for UKVI tests are currently suspended in China, Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR:
  - Mainland China – tests currently suspended until 1 March, 2020
  - Macau – tests currently suspended until 11 February, 2020
  - Hong Kong – tests currently suspended until 17 February, 2020
- These dates will be reviewed as the situation develops.
- Transfers and refunds are available for affected test takers by contacting their test center by email.
- There may be an increase in test session availability as soon as testing can resume.
- Visit the [IELTS website](#) for further developments in IELTS test arrangements.

Unfortunately, many test takers in these locations will be delayed in sitting a test and subsequently sending their GRE, TOEFL, or IELTS scores to institutions. Colleges and universities are asked to understand that this delay is through is through no fault of the test taker. Institutions are encouraged to extend the application process for these applicants.

## **Effect of Testing Suspensions on KSU Graduate Programs**

Currently, international graduate applications are open for the Spring 2021 semester, for which the deadline is Aug. 1st. If graduate recruitment in your program will be affected by testing suspensions, such as delays in testing and reporting of scores, please contact the Graduate School, so that we can consider requests for deadline extensions on a case-by-case basis. The Graduate School will make every effort to be flexible for the impacted applicants subjected to the fact that the admitted students should have sufficient time to make interview appointments at the embassies, to get their visas, travel to the U.S. on time for orientations, and get on payroll, if applicable.

## **[Division of Student Life Graduate Assistant Campus Visit Day](#)**

Please help promote the Division of Student Life Graduate Assistant Visit Day to current and incoming graduate students in need of an assistantship. During the Graduate Assistant Visit Day on Wednesday, March 20, 2019, prospective graduate students can visit K-State, interview with Student Life departments/offices that have openings for the 2019-2020 academic year, and meet faculty within their program of interest. If you have students who may be interested in this opportunity, please encourage them to visit the Student Life [Graduate Assistantship Opportunities](#) webpage. Students who wish to attend must [register](#) for the Campus Visit Day **no later than 5:00 pm on March 4, 2020.**

## **[Complete a brief form to indicate the iBT TOEFL to be used for your graduate program](#)**

Educational Testing Service (ETS) is now providing individuals who take the iBT TOEFL two scores: the score for the current test and MyBest™ Score which is composed of the highest scores from each sub-section (reading, listening, speaking, and writing) from all of the test taker's valid iBT TOEFL scores from tests taken in the last two years. The Graduate Council approved the following policy at their December meeting: Graduate Programs may use MyBest™ Score or the most recent iBT TOEFL in assessing language proficiency for admissions of international students. Programs must determine which score to use and apply it consistently for all applicants. This policy change is effective for all international applicants admitted for **Spring 2020 and thereafter.**

To assist the Graduate School with processing recommendations for admission, we ask that each graduate program [complete a brief form](#) to indicate which iBT TOEFL score should be used to evaluate international applicants to your program.

## **[University Distinguished Professors Graduate Student Award](#)**

The Graduate School is accepting applications for the University Distinguished Professors Graduate Student Award. Eligible graduate students must be admitted to candidacy at the time of application, in their last year of his or her doctoral degree program, be enrolled in the fall of the academic year of the award. The award is available to eligible students who meet the above criteria in any K-State college, department or program. Students may nominate themselves. K-State faculty may also submit nominations. [Application materials](#) should be submitted as one Word or PDF file to [udp@k-state.edu](mailto:udp@k-state.edu) by **April 1, 2020.**

## Graduate Faculty

### [The Graduate School is accepting nominations for the Timothy R. Donoghue Graduate Scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year](#)

This scholarship program was initiated by Timothy Donoghue, former Graduate School dean, as a way to recruit top candidates throughout the United States to K-State graduate programs by offering graduate assistantship packages that are highly competitive. Donoghue Scholarships enhance the maximum package a graduate program can offer to top candidates, making the total package a partnership between the graduate program and the Graduate School. Funding is available for the 2020-2021 academic year to support a maximum of 10 masters and 20 doctoral applicants. The scholarship is renewable for a second academic year. Submit nomination form to [donoghuescholarship@ksu.edu](mailto:donoghuescholarship@ksu.edu) including a strong and detailed justification for the nomination by **February 21, 2020**.

### [Attend the Three Minute Thesis Competition](#)

Heat, or preliminary, competitions for the Three Minute Thesis will be held **February 14** between 11:25am-4:40pm in the College of Business Building. Heat schedules are available on the [Three Minute Thesis webpage](#). Heat competitions are open to the public. Judges will select 8 participants to compete in the final competition on **February 27**, at 5:30pm in the Alumni Center Banquet Room. The final competition also is open to the public.

## Volunteer to be a Judge at the K-State GRAD Forum

The Graduate Student Council is calling for faculty and post-doc judge volunteers for the annual [K-State Graduate Research, Arts, and Discovery \(GRAD\) Forum](#), which will be held March 25 and 26, 2020. If interested in serving as a judge, please complete a [brief online form](#) to express your interest and provide your availability for the day.

## Graduate Students

### [The Library and Your Research - Getting a Head Start on Using the ETDR Writing Template](#)

**February 17, 12:30-1:30pm, 3121 College of Business Building** - Are you preparing to graduate next semester, or maybe you want to just get a bigger head start...this workshop is just for you. The emphasis will be on getting started using the ETDR Template for your electronic thesis, dissertation, or report, which meets the Graduate School's formatting requirements. Use of special features found in Word will also be covered. Some citation management and copyright will be covered. Don't wait until the last minute to learn the ropes on using the template documenting all your hard work. This session is also available via Zoom.

## **[Beyond the Professoriate Webinar - PhD Careers in UX Research](#)**

**February 14, 11:00am CST** – UX Research is a growing career field where PhDs from humanities, social sciences, and STEM backgrounds have found and launched successful careers. In this webinar, Ali Colleen Neff, PhD (Senior UX Researcher, New Relic) and Timothy Price, PhD (Principal UX Researcher, WellSky) will talk about how they launched their careers in UX research. After attending the webinar, you'll be able to define User Experience (UX) Research; determine if this is a career path of interest; and recognize the skills required to pursue a career in UX Research. **[Advanced registration](#) is required.**

## **[Complete the KSN application by February 15 to be considered for K-State scholarships](#)**

Graduate students are encouraged to complete the K-State Scholarship Network (KSN) application to be considered for scholarship opportunities. Students will create a profile in the system that will help match them to specific scholarship opportunities provided by K-State donors and offered through university departments. Scholarship opportunities are available for incoming and continuing students. To be considered for scholarships, students must **complete the KSN application by February 15 each year**. All scholarship awards in the KSN are made for the fall semester. Detailed instructions and frequently asked questions are available on the [Office of Student Financial Assistance](#) website.

## **[GSC Professional Development Seminar - Grant Writing 101](#)**

This training is aimed at informing graduate students, post-docs, and early career faculty about various aspects of the grant writing process. Whether you are new to grant writing or have some experience, the information presented will be very relevant and valuable for you, including: terminology and the grant writing process, writing the narrative and project summary, developing your budget, and understanding the review criteria and review process. The seminar will be held **February 19, 2020, 1:00-5:00pm in the Wildcat Chamber**, K-State Student Union. Advance registration is requested.

## **[Accepting Applications for Sarachek Predoctoral Honors Fellowship and Travel Awards](#)**

The Graduate School is accepting applications for the Sarachek Predoctoral Honors Fellowship and Travel Awards in Molecular Biology. The fellowship provides an award of \$17,000 to assist with the recipient's transition to the next stage of his or her career. Additionally, up to three Sarachek Scientific Travel Awards of \$1,000 each may be awarded annually. These awards are intended to recognize exceptional achievement in scholastics and research. Students must show evidence of effective communication of research results through publications in leading journals and presentations at national and international meetings. In order to be eligible, a student must have completed preliminary exams, been admitted to candidacy, and their research must rely significantly on one or more contemporary molecular biological techniques. Additional information and application instructions are available on the Graduate School's website. **Application deadline: March 1, 2019.**

## [Graduate Student Council Travel Awards](#)

**March 1 is the deadline** for graduate students to apply for GSC travel awards for travel to academic and professional events that begin anytime in May.

## [K-State Alumni Association International Student Scholarship](#)

The international student scholarships are for current Kansas State University international students. Applicants must be degree-seeking graduate or undergraduate Kansas State University students enrolled at the Manhattan, Polytechnic, or Olathe campus. The applicants must have had leadership experience at K-State that has helped promote international involvement on campus. Students must complete the [KSN general scholarship application](#) by **March 1, 2020** for the 2020-2021 school year. More information is located here.

## [Accepting Applications: ETS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program](#)

This program provides opportunities for early-career scholars to work with ETS researchers on a variety of cutting-edge topics, including foundational research as well as research embedded in real-world testing programs. Candidates must have received their doctorate within the past three years. This year, ETS is seeking applications in the following areas of expertise: measurement, psychometrics and statistics; process data modeling and analysis; and artificial intelligence. **Application Deadlines: March 1, 2020 (preliminary) and April 15, 2020 (final)**

## [Graduate Student Writing Retreat](#)

The Writing Center and Graduate School are hosting the annual Graduate Student Writing Retreat May 19-22 and 26-27. The retreat provides graduate students time and space to write in a supportive atmosphere and promotes effective writing practices to boost the dissertation- and thesis-writing process. **Application deadline is March 18.**

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