

# K-State Graduate School

## Weekly Newsletter

### **November 10, 2020** [Events and Deadlines](#)

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

### **Graduate School Commencement Update**

As reported in the Special Issue of K-State Today on Friday, November 6th and again on Monday, November 9th, significant changes are being made in the commencement ceremonies due to the current and projected surge in statewide COVID-19 cases and strain on medical resources throughout the state of Kansas and elsewhere in the U.S. One of these changes includes no family members or guests in attendance. This means that faculty cannot attend the ceremony to support their graduate students.

I hope you will celebrate with your graduate(s) in another safe and meaningful ways and will join their family and friends and watch them be recognized during the ceremony on the livestream available on the <https://www.k-state.edu/graduation/>.

The deadlines to officially graduate in December remain the same as published on the Graduate School Commencement and Graduation Calendar.

### **Kansas State University Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA) hosts Ally Cats discussion panel.**

Thursday, Nov. 12 at 6 pm via Zoom. You must [register for the Ally Cats panel online](#).

The Ally Cats panel discussion will feature topics such as navigation of sexuality and gender identity in the classroom, developing skills to discuss sexuality and gender identity in majority identity spaces, and ways that community members can become active allies. Panelists will reflect on how allyship from peers, faculty and the campus community can help in creating an affirming environment for historically underrepresented or erased identities. The event will also feature breakout sessions for participants to have in-depth conversations on identity and how allies to the LGBTQ+ community can further educate themselves and advocate for the equity of all.

If you have any questions you would like answered during the event, please submit them here: <https://forms.gle/DQxozwPzAAtCHdH87>.

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## **Graduate Faculty**

### **Graduate Faculty Orientation Canvas Course**

This fall, the Graduate School developed a Graduate Faculty Orientation course in Canvas. Those who became new graduate faculty members since April 2020 have been enrolled in the course and were invited to participate in one of two informational Zoom sessions with Dean Shanklin and Associate Dean Dissanayake. The course is also publicly available, and we expect it to be a useful resource for any graduate faculty members to utilize during their time at K-State. Others who have not been enrolled in the course but wish to view the course may [access the course here](#). If you wish to enroll in the course so that it will appear in your Canvas dashboard, click on the "Join this Course" button on the right side of the course homepage.

## **Graduate Students**

### **ATTENTION: Graduate Students Appointed as Graduate Assistant (GTA, GRA, or GA) for spring semester**

The Registrar's Office has established **November 20th** for graduate students on a minimum of 0.4 graduate assistantship (GTA, GRA, GA or combination) to enroll for spring semester. This will allow the Registrar's Office time to process the waiver so graduate assistant's tuition is assessed at the resident rate or GTA tuition is paid for hours specified in the Graduate Handbook.

Below is the information that the Registrar shared with departmental HCS liaison regarding tuition waivers and the requirements for graduate students to enroll by November 20th.

"Tuition calculation for the spring 2021 semester is currently scheduled for December 4th, 2020. **Please ensure that your students who are on continuing appointments are enrolled in 6+ credit hours and waivers are submitted by November 20th, 2020.** Waiver requests for students in less than 6 hours will be rejected. Enrollment for graduate students begins on November 2nd, allowing almost 3 weeks for them to be enrolled and the waivers to be submitted prior to the deadline. Please communicate the importance of enrolling to your students, as the waiver requests cannot be submitted until they have satisfied this requirement. By working proactively, we can ensure that correct tuition and fees are assessed to students prior to semester start. "

Please review the [Graduate Handbook Chapter 1: G3](#) for enrollment requirement and information about last semester enrollment policy and procedures.

## **Participate in Science Communication Week**

The [Kansas Science Communication Initiative](#), or KSCI, is organizing the fourth Science Communication Week at K-State, with virtual events Nov. 9-16. KSCI seeks to engage communities in understanding, enthusiastically promoting and actively participating in science and research. The annual Science Communication Week helps to raise awareness about the need and value of science communication and provides practitioners — scientists and communicators at all levels of education alike — with opportunities to broaden their horizons and sharpen their skills. This year, Science Communication Week will feature a variety of timely events that intersect with the global pandemic and social justice issues. Detailed information on all events is available on the [KSCI website](#).

## **Application Deadline Today - 2021 Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Small Grant Program for K-State Graduate Students**

The KSU Graduate School is pleased to announce the seventh year of funding for the Small Grant Program, to support research expenses for Master's and Ph.D. students in their final year. Grants up to \$1,000 will support direct research costs such as travel to an archive, data collection, or exhibition and performance expenses for graduate students doing original research in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. A panel of faculty in these disciplines will review applications in late 2020. Funds will be available after January 15, 2021.

Graduate students interested in this opportunity can find complete information on Small Grant Program Funding Guidelines, Requirements, and application portal at <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/financing/ahss/index.html>.

If there are any questions please contact Associate Dean in the Graduate School, Dr. Sunanda Dissanayake at [sunanda@ksu.edu](mailto:sunanda@ksu.edu).

**The application deadline is November 10, 2020.**

## **Grad Chat: Healthy Eating and Lifestyle During Times of High Expectations and Demands**

Trying to maximize our time to get things done often undermines even the best intentions to nourish ourselves with healthy food. Juggling the demands of graduate school can increase triggers for mindless and emotional eating – further sabotaging efforts to fuel bodies and brains for resilience during stressful times. Graduate students are invited to join former K-State graduate student Dianna

Schalles, Lafene's Coordinator of Nutrition Counseling, as she shares strategies that have helped her patients 'fuel better to feel better'-- and in turn, support student success and well-being. Self-care should not have to wait! Graduate students are invited to join either of the following sessions **on November 12**.

- 1:00 - 2:30pm - [Registration](#)
- 7:00 - 8:30pm - [Registration](#)

## **GSC Professional Development Seminar – Navigating Virtual Presentations**

**November 13, 1:00-2:00pm**

Theresa Merrick, assistant director of the K-State Writing Center, will share information on how to effectively present your research with a special focus on how to navigate the challenges of virtual presentation formats. Attendees will learn how to present written, graphic, and oral content that can be easily understood and has an impact on diverse audiences. This session may be especially useful for graduate students who plan to give their first presentation this academic year, but more experienced graduate students may also learn new strategies for improving their presentation skills. This session is being hosted by the Graduate Student Council as part of Science Communication Week. [Advance registration](#) is required to receive Zoom meeting information.

## [Postdoctoral opportunity at the University of New Hampshire](#)

This 2-year postdoctoral appointment will provide opportunities to hone your scholarship in preparation for the professoriate through mentoring, professional development, development funds, a minimum salary of \$50,000 (dependent on discipline), and benefits. The appointment includes a range of professional development opportunities and the opportunity to apply for a tenure track faculty opening in the 2nd year. There are nine postdoctoral opening across four colleges. Application deadline is **November 16, 2020**.

## **SPEAK Testing for International GTA Candidates**

The English Language Program is offering individual SPEAK testing on Zoom for international graduate students on the following dates and times:

- November 19-20
- December 3-17
- January 19-21

To register for a test date, please contact the English Language Program at [elp@ksu.edu](mailto:elp@ksu.edu). Testing will be available for both current students and newly admitted students for Spring of 2021.

\*Please note that since each candidate must meet with an ELP instructor before testing, a minimum of one week is required between the time you register for the test and the actual test date.

### **Fall OPT Workshops for International Students**

Due to limited operations, no OPT workshops will be held in person this semester. ISSS will offer a virtual OPT session via Zoom on **November 23 at 3:30pm**. Login details for the workshop can be found on the [ISSS website](#).

### **Register now for NIJ's Research Assistantship Program (RAP), Academic Year 2021-2022**

NIJ's Research Assistantship Program (RAP) offers highly qualified doctoral students practical and applied research experience in the criminal justice field. They provide funds to participating universities to pay salaries and other costs associated with research assistants who work on NIJ research activities. The deadline for applications is **December 23, 2020**.

A webinar will be held **Thursday, November 12, 3:00-4:00 pm EST**. [Register to attend](#) or receive email notice when the transcript is available.

The webinar will provide an overview of eligibility requirements, application materials, and the candidate review process for the 2021-2022 academic year application cycle. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions of the panelists, who include the RAP Manager and current Research Assistants.

### **Seeking GRA to support rural and healthy food access programs at Kansas State University**

K-State Research and Extension is seeking a graduate research assistant (GRA) to work with the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative and Rural Grocery Initiative. This GRA position is an opportunity for a M.A., M.S., or Ph.D. student to bring creative energy and vision to a comprehensive urban and rural food systems program. The ideal candidate will have broad experience in or hold an undergraduate (and possibly Master's degree) in fields related to food access, food systems, and/or community development. Candidates must have a commitment to issues of social justice and community engagement. This is a position that will work with an interdisciplinary team, employing a variety of applied and community-based

research methods. Compensation is in the form of a \$25,000 stipend that can be applied to tuition.

This position will be available from January 2021 through December 2021 with future funding (secured through July 2023) contingent on satisfactory performance evaluations. Position begins as early as January 25, 2021.

Applications will be accepted until position is filled. However, for best consideration, submit a letter of interest, a current resume, and the name and contact information for three references by **December 1, 2020** to [khfi@ksu.edu](mailto:khfi@ksu.edu).

### **IBUILD Graduate Research Fellowship**

The Innovation in Buildings (IBUILD) Graduate Research Fellowship is now accepting applications. Selected fellows will advance their graduate research by receiving research and educational support to conduct innovative research at their home institution in an area with demonstrated relevance to building energy efficiency. Fellows will also gain professional development, mentoring, networking, and support for internship opportunities. Fellows receive a stipend of \$35,000, an allowance to offset the costs of health insurance up to \$16,000, research travel and materials up to \$12,000, and limited tuition allowance up to \$25,000. Fellowship will be awarded in 12-month increments based on an annual review of research progress and sustained alignment with designated BTO research areas. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident and be enrolled or intend to enroll as a full-time doctoral or master's graduate student at a qualified program requiring a research thesis/dissertation at an accredited U.S. college or university by September 1, 2021 with a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.00 or higher on a 4.00 scale. [Application](#) **Deadline: December 1, 2020, 5:00 PM EST.**

### **Graduate Fellowship Opportunity at Kansas State University**

The Rural Resources Resiliency NSF Research Traineeship Program is now recruiting current K-State graduate students in Agricultural Economics, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Sociology, and closely related fields. The program prepares future leaders to solve the grand challenges of creating sustainable food, energy, and water systems in rural communities in semi-arid regions. We investigate engineering and socioeconomic innovations to conserve water, create renewable energy and help sustain rural communities. NSF sponsored training includes a generous stipend and paid tuition for up to two years for eligible trainees. [Application](#) deadline is **Jan. 8, 2021.**

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