

# K-State Graduate School

## Weekly Newsletter

### **November 17, 2020** [Events and Deadlines](#)

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

### **[Fall 2020 Commencement Ceremonies Canceled](#)**

Due to a rapid, uncontrolled increase in positive COVID-19 cases in our campus communities and throughout the state, Kansas State University is canceling commencement activities scheduled for Nov. 20-22. This includes ceremonies scheduled for the Manhattan and Salina campuses.

The university will hold a virtual recognition in December with details to be announced.

Please check back soon for details on the virtual recognition and additional information to help graduates with this change in plans.

[Read the official announcement](#)  
[View frequently asked questions](#)

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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

### [GSC Professional Development event recordings available](#)

Graduate Student Council (GSC) professional development events have concluded for the fall 2020 semester. Several of the events were video recorded and are available for viewing. Graduate students and post-docs who attend at least five GSC professional development events within the 2020-2021 academic year will be presented with a GSC Professional Development Certificate. Students must complete a feedback survey after participating in an event to earn credit toward the certificate, and credit may be earned by viewing event video recordings in place or, or in addition to participating in live events. Visit the [GSC Professional Development](#) webpage to view event recordings.

### **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 assistants' 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.

### **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.

### **[Accepting Applications: Advancing Careers Through Industry Immersion Program](#)**

Offered by BioKansas, this program is designed to provide graduate students with a better understanding of career options within the local bioscience and biomedical community, build relevant knowledge about how the broader bioscience ecosystem operates, expand professional networks, and provide more immediate access to future job opportunities. Participants take part in an immersive seven module training experience where they gain valuable knowledge of the entire industrial bioscience landscape, from the discovery of an idea, navigating the legal and regulatory process, all the way through moving a product into the marketplace or clinic – all while surrounded by industry professionals. [Application](#) deadline is November 23.

### **[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**.

## **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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