

# K-State Graduate School

## Weekly Newsletter

### **October 13, 2020** [Events and Deadlines](#)

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

### **Graduate Faculty Volunteers Needed for Graduate School Commencement Ceremonies**

The Graduate School needs 22 graduate faculty volunteers to serve as marshals for each of the commencement ceremonies (8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.). Marshals will assist in seating students in their assigned seats prior to the ceremony, direct the flow of traffic to and from the stage, and assist with the recessional. Marshals will need to provide their own regalia. If you are available and wish to serve as a marshal and celebrate with our May, August and Fall graduates, please send Ms. Cynthia Brott an email at [cdbrott@ksu.edu](mailto:cdbrott@ksu.edu) by October 30th. Please designate the ceremony(ies) you are wish to serve as a marshal. Thank you in advance for your service.

### **Graduate School Commencement Update and Deadline to Participate**

The Graduate school Commencement is scheduled for two ceremonies on Friday, November 20th.

Graduates from the following colleges will be participating at the 8:30 a.m. ceremony in Bramlage: Agriculture; Architecture, Planning and Design; Arts and Sciences; and Engineering. Graduates from the College of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Veterinary Medicine, K-State Olathe, and K-State Polytechnic will participate in the 4:00 p.m. ceremony.

Only faculty who are hooding terminal degree candidates or serving as marshals will be allowed to participate in the ceremonies due to social distancing guidelines and to allow graduates to invite two guest to the ceremony.

May and August Graduates received an email on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from the Registrar's Office providing them information about Graduate School Commencement. The graduates are to complete the Graduation Participation link in the email and respond to the RSVP link by **Friday, October 16th**.

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

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## **Graduate Program Directors**

### **[Review of Interest in using SMS/Text Messaging in CollegeNet - Zoom Session](#)**

The CollegeNet Communications page, when released, plans to provide an updated view of student engagement. Communication activities, including SMS and emails, are anticipated improvements. The Graduate School invites you to this Zoom meeting to discuss and gauge program interest in using a texting/SMS service in CollegeNet to communicate with prospective students and applicants. **Oct 16, 2020 10:00 AM Central Time** (US and Canada). Register in advance for this meeting [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### **Interested in Recruiting McNair Scholars to your graduate program?**

The Graduate School has access to the 2020-2021 McNair Scholars Directory to use specifically for recruiting new graduate students. The directory includes contact information for McNair Scholars who have expressed interest in graduate studies and includes information on recent graduates, seniors, and rising seniors. The directory was developed through a collaboration between the Council for Opportunity in Education and the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS).

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is the single largest federal effort aimed at preparing low-income, first-generation in college and minority students to pursue graduate studies. The McNair Program is funded through the U.S. Department of Education's TRIO programs and provides participants with research internships, faculty mentors, opportunities to present and publish results of their research, undergraduate teaching experience, and assistance with applying to and preparing for graduate school.

If your graduate program would like to use the directory to contact these prospective graduate students who would have had research experience as part of their undergraduate program, please contact Associate Dean Dissanayake at [sunanda@ksu.edu](mailto:sunanda@ksu.edu). This is a good opportunity to increase the diversity among your graduate students.

## **Graduate Faculty**

### **[Sigma Xi Outstanding K-State Scientist Award Lecture](#)**

The recipient of this year's Sigma Xi Outstanding K-State Scientist Award is Dr. Mithila Jugulam, professor of agronomy. All are invited to her public talk on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 4:00pm. The title of her talk is, "Evolution of Weed Resistance to Herbicides: Investigation of Knowledge Gaps." Join the talk by [Zoom](#).

### **2020 Commerce Bank and W.T. Kemper Distinguished Graduate Faculty Lecture**

The dates have been set for the 2020-2021 Commerce Bank and W.T. Kemper Distinguished Graduate Faculty Lecture. The recipients of the award below will receive an honorarium, are recognized during the fall Graduate School commencement ceremony and during a public lecture to the campus community. All are invited to participate in a public presentation on Wang's work.

#### **Dr. Donghai Wang**

Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering  
Carl R. Ice College of Engineering  
Lecture Date – October 23, 2020, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. [via Zoom](#)

#### **Dr. Thomas Phillips**

Department of Entomology  
College of Agriculture  
Lecture Date – April 27, 2021, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Location TBD.

## **Graduate Students**

### **[GSC Professional Development Seminar – Building and Contributing to Inclusive and Equitable Work Environments](#)**

October 15, 2:30-3:30pm

Graduate students and postdocs wanting to create or contribute to inclusive and equitable work environments are invited to join this interactive workshop to:

- Familiarize yourself with relevant data and discuss obstacles to diversifying academia
- Understand diversity in workplaces and how to contribute to inclusive and equitable work environments
- Identify strategies to be an effective contributor toward change

- Discover resources to learn more and get engaged with equity and inclusion efforts

[Advance registration](#) for this session is required by 5:00pm on October 13th.

## **Grad Chat**

K-State graduate students are invited to engage in discussion and connect with Graduate School leadership and fellow graduate students in an informal chat session. This is a great opportunity to receive guidance from the Graduate School to facilitate academic success and personal wellbeing. We also hope these chats will provide a space for graduate students learn from each other and make new connections. Graduate students are invited to join either of the following sessions on October 21:

- 1:00-2:30pm – [register](#) to join by Zoom
- 7:00-8:30pm – [register](#) to join by Zoom

## **[AAUW Scholarship Opportunities for Female Graduate Students](#)**

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is a global leader in educational funding for women, awarding nearly \$4 million annually to women scholars. The AAUW is currently accepting applications for two funding opportunities. The [AAUW American Fellowships for women doctoral, postdoc and faculty](#) provides \$6,000-\$30,000 for women pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research full-time, or preparing research for publication for eight consecutive weeks. The [International Fellowships for women graduate students and postdocs](#) provides \$18,000-\$30,000 for women pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral study in the United States who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Both of these funding opportunities have an **application deadline of November 1, 2020.**

## **2021 Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Small Grant Program for K-State Graduate Students - application process opens**

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.**

### **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 **October 26 and November 23 at 3:30pm**. Login details for the workshop can be found on the [ISSS website](#).

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