

K-State Graduate School

Weekly Newsletter

September 29, 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 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 colleges 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 will be allowed to participate in the ceremonies due to social distancing guidelines. I know that this is disappointing but we want to accommodate the graduates and up to two guests per student. Please accept my sincere thank you to all the graduate faculty who have attended previous ceremonies to celebrate with our graduates.

Important Reminder to December Graduates Planning on Participating in Commencement

December graduates who plan to participate in commencement must submit their KSIS application AND approval to schedule final examination by **Friday, October 2nd**.

May and August Graduates received an email on Monday, September 28h 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. The Friday, October 2nd deadline is for students who will be graduating and wanting to participate in commencement.

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. **Date and time and Zoom link coming soon!**

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. This is a good opportunity to increase the diversity among your graduate students.

Deadlines for Departments to Submit Recommendations for International Applications

The deadline to recommend admission for International applicants for spring 2021 was September 1st. This includes individuals who are: Living outside of the United States, applicants who are currently enrolled at an institution in the United States who plan to graduate in December and plan to travel outside of the United States prior to January.

October 1st deadline includes individuals who are: Living in the United States and who do not plan to travel outside of the United States prior to January and

distance learning applicants. Individuals admitted for spring should plan to arrive on campus no later than January 8, 2021.

Call for Graduate Student Teaching Award Nominations

Departments are encouraged to nominate outstanding graduate teaching assistants (GTAs) for the [GSC/MAGS Award for Graduate Student Teaching Excellence](#). Each department may nominate one masters and one doctoral GTA for the teaching award. Department nominations are due to College Deans offices by September 30.

Graduate Faculty

Volunteer to be a Poster Judge for Research and the State

The Graduate Student Council is calling for faculty and post-doc judge volunteers for the annual [Research and the State](#) graduate student poster session. The poster session will be held in a virtual format via Zoom on October 23, 2020. Presentation sessions will be held throughout the day between 9:00am-5:00pm. The time commitment for judges will be 1-2.5 hours. If interested in serving as a judge, please complete a brief [online form](#) to express your interest and provide your availability on October 23.

[Teaching & Learning Center Professional Development Series](#) - How We Follow Through on the Promise of Support

September 30, 12:00-1:00pm. [Join via 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

Eisenhower Hall Graduate Student Space Open for Use

Graduate students who need a quiet space to study, work on writing projects, grade for classes they TA or teach, or work on other tasks or projects are welcome to use the Graduate School's graduate student space on the third floor of Eisenhower Hall. Use of the spaces must follow K-State COVID-19 safety guidelines, including wearing facial masks, social distancing, and limited occupancy in each room.

Research and the State Abstract Submission Deadline Extended to Sept. 30

The Graduate Student Council will continue to accept registration and abstracts for the Research and the State graduate student poster session, which will be held October 23rd via Zoom. Graduate students from all disciplines are invited to participate. Ten presenters will be selected to represent K-State at the annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit (CGRS) held in the spring at the Capitol Building, where graduate students present their posters and discuss the implications their work has on issues in the state of Kansas. Additionally, Research and the State is a great opportunity for graduate students to share their research or scholarly work with the campus community. **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 30, 2020, 11:59 pm CST.**

Grad Chat

October 1

K-State graduate students are invited to engage in discussion and connect with Graduate School leadership and fellow graduate students in an informal, virtual chat session. In this session, Andrew Kohls from K-State's Career Center will share guidance on how to search for internships and connect with potential employers. Andrew will also talk about the services and resources available from the Career Center to support career exploration and preparation for internships and jobs. Registration is required to receive Zoom meeting information.

Session 1 – 12:30-2:00pm, [registration](#)

Session 2 – 7:00-8:30pm, [registration](#)

[GSC Professional Development Seminar – Improving Productivity and Managing Time](#)

October 1, 2:30-3:30pm

Graduate students and post-docs looking to develop general time management skills or time management for complex projects are invited to join this session to understand the importance of time management skills from an employer perspective and for career satisfaction and well-being, explore productivity best practices, and learn strategies to plan and implement a large project. Advance [registration](#) is requested by September 29th at 5:00pm. Zoom meeting information will be provided upon registration.

[Graduate Student Council Travel Awards](#)

The GSC is continuing to accept travel award applications, and applications must be submitted by the appropriate deadline. However, per the [announcement made on March 14](#), all university-affiliated or sponsored travel is banned until further notice, and students should not make travel arrangements until the ban is lifted. At this time, GSC travel awards may be used to reimburse registration fees associated with conferences being held in a virtual format. **October 1 is the deadline** for graduate students to apply for GSC travel awards for travel to academic and professional events that begin anytime in December.

[The Library and Your Research Workshops - Managing Citations and References](#)

October 5, 1:30pm

Are you preparing a literature review for a paper, article, thesis, or dissertation? This workshop will help you! Learn why a literature review is important, how to use K-State Libraries' databases to select articles, how to evaluate the articles, and how to organize the review. For this session, article searching will be demonstrated using PubMed, Web of Science, and other science databases, however, the concepts will be applicable to all disciplines. [Join via Zoom](#).

[GSC Professional Development Seminar – Self Care at K-State](#)

October 6, 1:00-2:00pm

Surveys indicate that up to 86% of graduate students struggle with anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns. Many K-State faculty and staff felt and still feel these same pressures and want graduate students to know that this is normal and is nothing to be ashamed of. Our goal is to normalize mental health concerns by sharing real stories on social media. The registration form for this session includes a short survey to give graduate students the opportunity to share their stories. In this session, Dr. James Guest will share self-care strategies to help

manage graduate school stress and answer questions from attendees. Questions can be submitted live via private or public chat or prior to the event via the [registration form](#).

TLC Professional Development – Accommodating Students and Providing Access for All during COVID-19

October 7, 12:00-1:00pm

Presentation by Jason Maseberg Tomlinson, director of K-State's Student Access Center.

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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