

# K-State Graduate School

## Weekly Newsletter

**January 28, 2020**   [Events and Deadlines](#)

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

### **Graduate Program Directors**

#### [Graduate Assistantship Forms](#)

As a reminder, all graduate programs and other employing units are to use the updated Graduate Assistantship Appointment forms for new and continuing appointments (changes in responsibilities or distribution of tenths time) effective January 1, 2020. Note the new form requires the following information to be provided: type of appointment, length, stipend and other financial support, list of duties and responsibilities, name of supervisor with contact information, and date when signed appointment form is to be returned and the address to which it is to be returned. The appointment offer should be signed by the department head or an administrator with signature authorization. Instructions and the fillable forms are available in the [Faculty and Staff](#) section of the Graduate School website.

### **April 15<sup>th</sup> Resolution with Council of Graduate Schools**

As we approach another graduate recruiting and admissions season, graduate programs are reminded of our institution's participation in the Council of Graduate Schools' (CGS) "[Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees and Assistantships](#)" also known as the "April 15 Resolution." The deadline for acceptance of financial aid remains on that date, at midnight Sunday night in your time zone.

Participation in the resolution obliges us to **allow admitted graduate students to consider all offers of financial support through April 15**. In turn, the resolution binds students to their decisions made or held in place after April 15. Over 325 U.S. institutions offering graduate degrees have agreed to abide by this resolution. Your cooperation ensures that both student and programs conduct their admissions in an ethical manner, and that they receive equal treatment and consideration in the financial support decision-making process.

Here are some important aspects of the Resolution:

- The April 15, 2020, deadline applies only to acceptance of an offer of financial support such as a graduate scholarship, fellowship, traineeship, or assistantship.
- It applies only to offers of financial support for the following academic year.
- Although you can send out your offers well before the deadline, prospective graduate students are under no obligation to respond to offers of financial aid prior to April 15.

- Acceptance of an offer of financial support made after April 15, 2020, is conditional upon presentation by the student of written release from any previously accepted offer.
- All offers of financial support should include a copy of or link to the "[April 15 Resolution](#)"

In addition to direct information on the resolution, some explanatory language should be included in all financial support letters. Below is an example of wording that you are free to use in your letter.

Please inform us in writing of your decision no later than April 15, 2020. In accordance with the [Council of Graduate Schools' \(CGS\) resolution](#), you may consider other offers of financial support until the April 15 deadline, but any decision after April 15 is an obligation that you are expected to honor. Likewise, we will honor this offer until the April 15 deadline, after which point it will be rescinded unless you are informed in writing that the deadline for a decision has been extended. Although you are under no obligation to accept this offer prior to April 15, please let us know as soon as you have made a decision so that we may extend offers to other prospective students if possible.

Please contact the Graduate School with questions or concerns about the April 15 Resolution.

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

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.

### **[Accepting nominations: AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering \(CASE\) workshop](#)**

The Graduate School is accepting nominations for two graduate students in STEM-related fields to attend the [AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering \(CASE\) workshop](#) March 29-April 1 in Washington, DC. For more details, see the full announcement in [K-State Today](#). To nominate a student, the graduate program director or department chair must provide a short — approximately 100 words — paragraph on why they are nominating the student. The student also must provide a short — approximately 100 word — paragraph addressing why he or she would like to attend the workshop, what they expect to gain from the experience, and how it would fit into their career plans, as well as a short CV. Please send nomination documents to Megan Miller ([mmmiller@ksu.edu](mailto:mmmiller@ksu.edu)) by 5:00pm on February 7. Questions can be directed to Carol Shanklin ([shanklin@ksu.edu](mailto:shanklin@ksu.edu)), dean of the Graduate School.

### **[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.

## **Graduate Faculty**

### **[Nominate Graduate Students for Alumni Association Awards](#)**

Each year, the K-State Alumni Association recognizes K-State students for their accomplishments through several awards. The Alumni Association is now accepting nominations for the following 2020 awards programs:

- The [Graduate Student Awards](#) recognize one graduate student in two categories: academics, and leadership and service (two awards).
- The [International Leadership Awards](#) honor four graduating students for their leadership within the international community (four awards).
- The [Robinson Family Multicultural Leadership Awards](#) honor four graduating students for their leadership within the multicultural community (four awards).
- The [Tony Jurich Community Commitment and Leadership Student Awards](#) recognize one graduate student and one undergraduate student who demonstrate a commitment to community leadership and service through Jurich's Core Leadership Tenets (two awards).

Students graduating in May, August, or December (2020) are eligible for the awards. Recipients are selected by committees of the Alumni Association board of directors. Winners will be recognized April 22 and 23 at the K-State Alumni Center. **Nominations are due February 7.**

### **[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**.

## **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.

## **[Commerce Bank and WT Kemper Foundation Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award](#)**

The Graduate School is accepting nominations for the [Commerce Bank Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award](#). The award honors current members of the graduate faculty who are recognized nationally and internationally for their leadership and contributions to graduate education at K-State and their outstanding scholarly achievements. Recipients of the award will receive an honorarium and will be recognized during the fall Graduate School commencement ceremony and during a public lecture to the campus community. The materials noted below should be submitted as one Word or PDF file to [dgf@k-state.edu](mailto:dgf@k-state.edu) by **May 1, 2020**.

## **Graduate Students**

### **[Beyond the Professoriate Webinar - How to Get Hired: Advice to PhDs from Hiring Managers](#)**

**January 31, 11:00am CST** – What do hiring managers look for in new employees? How can graduate students and PhDs communicate their value to potential employers and land a great post-PhD job? In this webinar, two PhDs — Josh Magsam, PhD (English, University of Oregon) and Melanie Nelson PhD (biochemistry, Scripps Research) — demystify the hiring process. After attending this webinar, you'll be able to recognize the perspective of hiring managers; identify common mistakes job candidates make; and apply strategies for pitching yourself to employers. **[Advanced registration is required](#)**.

### **[Registration open for annual Three Minute Thesis Competition](#)**

Registration is open for the Graduate School's annual Three Minute Thesis competition (3MT), which challenges graduate students to present a compelling oration on their thesis/dissertation topic and its significance in just three minutes using just one slide. 3MT® facilitates the development of academic, presentation, and research communication skills. The competition focuses on the students' ability to communicate the importance of their research to the broader community. Heats, or preliminary competitions, will be held on February 14. Judges will select participants from each heat to compete in the final competition on February 27. **Registration deadline: January 31, 2020 at 11:59 pm CST.**

### **[For Women in Science!](#)**

The L'Oréal USA For Women in Science fellowship program awards female scientists at a critical stage in their careers with grants of \$60,000 each. The program is seeking five exceptional female scientists looking to advance their research and serve as role models for the next generation of girls in STEM. The program is the U.S. component of the [L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science International Fellowships program](#).

L'Oréal USA partners with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to manage the program's application and peer-review process. Each year, the program attracts talented applicants from diverse STEM fields, representing some of the nation's leading academic institutions and laboratories. For more information about [the L'Oréal USA For Women in Science](#)

[program](#), please visit the website and [apply](#). The completed **applications are due no later than January 31, 2020**, and the wards will be announced in October 2020.

### **[Accepting Applications: ETS Research and Development Summer Internship Program in Research for Graduate Students](#)**

The ETS is seeking graduate students enrolled in a doctoral program and early-career scientists who are interested in research opportunities in the following emphasis areas:

- Assessment, measurement and psychometrics: assessment design, validity, fairness, psychometric modeling
- Education: higher education, career and technical education, teacher education, English as a second or foreign language
- Natural language processing and computational linguistics
- Psychology: cognitive psychology, educational psychology, industry-organizational psychology
- Speech recognition and processing
- Statistics and data science: machine learning, causal inference, computational statistics, hierarchical modeling

Selected interns conduct research under the guidance of mentors at ETS offices in Princeton, N.J. Graduate students who are currently enrolled in full-time doctoral programs in the areas listed above and who have completed a minimum of two years of coursework toward their Ph.D. or Ed.D. prior to the program start date are eligible to apply. **Application Deadline: February 1, 2020.**

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

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

### **[The Library and Your Research - Starting Your Literature Review in Social Sciences and Education](#)**

**February 3, 12:30-1:30pm, 3121 College of Business Building** - Are you preparing a literature review for a paper, article, thesis or dissertation? This workshop will help! 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 social sciences and education databases; however, the concepts will be applicable to all disciplines. This session is also available via Zoom.

### **[GSC Professional Development Seminar - Writing Effective Research Papers](#)**

This workshop is aimed to provide a guide on how to write research papers in an effective manner. Dr. Marcelus Caldas will go over good writing techniques and the best practices when it comes to disseminating your findings in a technical, yet comprehensible way. This workshop will touch on the organization of a scientific research paper. It will also cover designing tables and figures and writing a clear and concise abstract and cover letter for submission to a science journal. The workshop will be held **February 4, 2020, 1:30-4:30pm in the Wildcat Chamber**, K-State Student Union. Advance registration is requested.

## [GSC Professional Development Seminar - How to Explain Your Thesis in 180 Seconds](#)

It's easy to get caught up in the nitty gritty details of your research when you spend most of your time working with faculty and peers in your own field of study. Learning how to summarize your research in just a few minutes in a way that non-expert audiences can understand will help you refocus on the big picture of your work and why it matters. The ability to communicate the purpose and importance of your research in three minutes can increase your confidence and the impact you have when networking at conferences, giving poster presentations, and when working with researchers from other disciplines. Your written communication also might improve, which can be beneficial when applying for grants, fellowships, and jobs. This session will cover basic messaging, answering the "so-what" question, pitfalls to avoid, using storytelling as a strategy for communicating to non-expert audiences, and tips on effective visual communication. Highly recommended for students participating in the Three-Minute Thesis Competition, but beneficial for all graduate students. The seminar will be held **February 7, 2020, 1:30-3:30pm in the Wildcat Chamber**, K-State Student Union. Advance registration is requested.

## [Registration open for K-State Graduate Research, Arts, and Discovery \(K-GRAD\) Forum](#)

Registration is open for the Graduate Student Council's 2020 K-State GRAD Forum. Graduate students from all disciplines are invited to participate and may register to give either an oral presentation on March 25 or a poster presentation on March 26. Judges will select the most outstanding presentation in each session to receive an award. **Registration and abstract submission deadline: February 7, 2020, at 11:59 pm CST.**

## [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.

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