MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Greetings,

Another year is in full swing and the fall holiday season will soon be upon us. So much has happened since last spring. In the last few months we welcomed a number of new members to our team in the Graduate School and you can learn more about them later in this newsletter. Our goal is to serve the needs of all students, faculty, and staff on matters that pertain to graduate and postdoctoral education. To this end we work with a number of other units on campus to offer programs that complement and enhance the experience students and postdocs gain in their individual academic units. Three areas where I think The Graduate School can make a difference in this regard are promoting: 1) interdisciplinary engagement and reflection; 2) international experiences; and 3) professional development. The activities highlighted in this newsletter exemplify our efforts in these areas.

I wish you a happy and healthful holiday season and hope to see you at some of our events.

Sincerely,
Nancy Marcus

Please see the video about FSU’s Raise the Torch Campaign by clicking on the logo to the right.
JOIN THE GRAD SCHOOL FOR THE SECOND 3MT COMPETITION

BY: PAMELA BROWN

The Graduate School invites you to attend this fall’s Three Minute Thesis (3MT™) Finals on November 18, 2014 at 6 p.m. in the College of Medicine Auditorium. This will be FSU’s second year participating in the internationally acclaimed competition that encourages students to present their research in less than three minutes to a non-specialist audience. 3MT™ is not about ‘dumbing down’ the research topic and results, but about learning to explain it in terms understandable to the general population. The preliminary rounds this semester were conducted October 20-23 and 10 students were selected as finalists. These students will present their research to the general public with selected judges critiquing and awarding a first and second place winner. The audience will be asked to vote for their favorite speaker to win the People’s Choice award.

The students in preliminary and final rounds of competition are recorded by Dr. Harold Kroto’s GEOFSET film crew and provided with specific links to their edited video, which they are able to use for their own professional materials, including resumes. In the future, FSU hopes to open this competition to master’s students (it is currently only open to doctoral students) and to compete regionally.

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT™) is an academic competition developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), Australia for research students. FSU participates using their rules and regulations for competition. You can find more information about 3MT™ at http://threeminutethesis.org.

We hope that you will join us this year for the finals! Our ten finalists for the 2014-15 Three Minute Thesis (3MT™) are as follows:

Kimberly Smith  
Psychology

Rachel Armstrong  
Chemistry & Biochemistry

Michael Mitchell  
Computer Science

Takudwa Madzima  
Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Sciences

Mark Magres  
Biological Science

James Miller  
History

Sarah Burkhart  
Biomedical Sciences

Ryan Riskowski  
Molecular Biophysics

Rebecca Turk  
Foreign & Second Language Education

Frank Annie  
Geography

DOCTORAL DIVERSITY AND McKNIGHT STUDENTS HONORED

BY: DR. KEISHA JOHN

As part of Florida State University’s commitment to diversity and inclusion, the Graduate School hosted the second annual Diversity Dinner and the first McKnight Luncheon to recognize exceptional students from traditionally underrepresented communities. Both events had strong attendance and took place in the Great Hall of the new Honors, Scholars, and Fellows House. The Diversity Dinner created networking opportunities between new and current doctoral students and faculty members. Interim President Garnett S. Stokes spoke with the guests about the value of mentoring relationships.

The McKnight Luncheon recognized current and past recipients of the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship as well and faculty and mentor award winners. This is a state-wide program administered by the Florida Education Fund to support Hispanic and African American doctoral students. The theme of the event was networking. Dr. Warford, a McKnight alum, and Dean Marcus spoke during the lunch. Thank you to all of the students and faculty who support our commitment to diversity.
Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) & Preparing Future Professionals (PFP) Workshop Series

The Graduate School partners with the FSU Career Center, the Office of Graduate Fellowships & Awards, the University Libraries, and the Center for Leadership & Social Change to offer professional development workshops during the academic year and summer terms as well. The University Libraries offers many research-oriented workshops that may be used to meet requirements of the Preparing Future Faculty and Preparing Future Professionals Certificates. Workshops, led by FSU faculty and administrators, are intended to provide opportunities for graduate students and postdocs to develop and build upon the following five core competencies: Communication, Teaching, Scholarly Development, Professionalism, and Career Development. Workshops are also intended to be appropriate at one or more stages of graduate study or postdoctoral experience: Early stage, Middle stage, Late stage, or All stages. Students and postdoctoral scholars may attend workshops more than once and during any stage. On the Professional Development Workshop page each workshop is labeled with its associated core competency and stage. The labels simply provide suggested attendance timeframes and core competencies. Some of our workshops are conducted every other year. For example, last spring, we offered the Contracts & Grants Workshop, while February 6, 2015, we will conduct the Faculty in a Research University: Expectations, Opportunities and Challenges Workshop.

Office of Graduate Fellowships & Awards Workshops

The Office of Graduate Fellowships & Awards helps graduate students to find and to apply for external sources of funding. Each semester, we conduct professional development workshops on a range of topics. In the fall, we presented information on securing funding abroad, dissertation research fellowships, opportunities for women and minority students, and building a persuasive resume, personal statement, and research proposal. Visit our website at ogfa.fsu.edu to learn more about upcoming workshops and how we assist graduate students here at FSU.

Thesis, Dissertation and Treatise Manuscript Clearance Workshops

Do you have questions about the Graduate School’s requirements on formatting, the submission process or being cleared for graduation? This workshop addresses questions of proper formatting, along with helpful tips for formatting properly in Word, and how and when to submit your manuscript. It also addresses issues of copyright, IRB/ACUC approvals and other questions that may arise during the process. This workshop is recommended for all thesis/dissertation/treatise-track students at least one semester prior to intended defense, but is open to all students at any stage in their manuscript process. This workshop is presented approximately 5-6 times per semester on different days and times to accommodate student schedules. Students can also find the presentation and all materials related to Manuscript Clearance in GradSpace.

The PIE Coffee Hour & Teaching Workshop Series

PIE offers FSU Graduate Student teaching assistants (TAs) and instructors from across disciplines the opportunity to get together and discuss strategies and techniques that promote excellence in teaching and learning. There are at least five workshops offered each fall and spring on topics such as How to Teach with Technology, Planning Classroom Activities (for large classrooms too!), Encouraging Critical Thinking in the Classroom, Keeping Students Engaged, and Creating Student-Centered Learning Environments. Preregistration is encouraged, as the coffee will be provided! Please visit our website for a complete list of workshops, and the registration link: http://pie.fsu.edu/PIE-Coffee-Hour-Teaching-Workshop-Series. These free workshops count towards the Preparing Future Faculty and the Preparing Future Professionals Certificates (PFF and/or PFP Certificates), as well as the Advanced PIE Teaching Training Recognition.

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To learn more about specific workshops, please check out our website at: http://gradschool.fsu.edu/Professional-Development/Professional-Development-Workshop-Series
MEET THE NEW STAFF AT THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Students often wonder where they can get help for the various issues that arise during their graduate school years. Whether the issue is paperwork, financing, or completing your final requirements, the Graduate School has someone who can help you. This year, the Graduate School has many new faces for students to meet.

Dr. Lisa Liseno  
**Assistant Dean & Director of PIE and the Fellows Society**

Dr. Lisa Liseno is an assistant dean of The Graduate School at FSU, where she serves as the director of the Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE) and the Fellows Society. Prior to working in the Graduate School, she was a faculty member in Florida State’s Academic Center for Excellence, a learning center housed in Undergraduate Studies. She received a bachelor’s degree from Carroll University in Waukesha, Wis., where she double majored in philosophy and journalism. She then earned a master’s degree in philosophy from Northern Illinois University in 2000, and a Ph.D. in philosophy from FSU in 2007. While a graduate student at FSU, she served as a teaching assistant, instructor, and undergraduate advisor in the Philosophy department. In 2005, she earned an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award for her instruction at Florida State. She also continues to teach philosophy courses as an adjunct instructor at Florida State.

James Beck  
**Academic Program Specialist**

In February 2014, James joined the Graduate School staff. He is a Florida State University alumni who earned his B.S. in Criminal Justice in Fall 2013. Previously, James worked in the Registrar’s Office as a Data Cleanup Specialist where he reviewed academic records for accuracy and conducted credit review evaluations for students. His goal is to maintain the Graduate School website, organize the functions of the Graduate Policy Committee, and assist all graduate faculty in acquiring proper teaching status. James enjoys working in academia and reviewing graduate policies. He is very interested in pursuing his master’s degree at Florida State University sometime soon.

Christine Collins  
**Office Assistant**

Christine started working for The Graduate School in August. She came to FSU as a transfer student from Berry College in Rome Georgia. She completed her B.A. in English, with a creative writing concentration, in 1997. Christine’s passion for reading, writing, and education led her into the field of Early Childhood Education. She began teaching at Alumni Village Child Development Center and continued her career at various preschools over the past twenty years. Christine has come full circle and returned to FSU, embracing her role assisting graduate students on their educational journey.

Melissa Hardison  
**Office Assistant**

Melissa joined the Graduate School in July. Her educational background includes a BA in Creative Writing/Fine Art from Sweet Briar College in Virginia and an MFA in Painting from the New York Academy of Art. She is a strong advocate of higher learning and a volunteer at the Council on Culture & Arts for Tallahassee/Leon County. She enjoys literature, life drawing, and playing the piano. At FSU, she likes designing web and print content, meeting new graduate students, and hearing about their research.

Ute Horn  
**Office Administrator**

In August, Ute joined the Graduate School staff as the office administrator, transferring from Undergraduate Studies. She earned a M.A. in Language and Literature (German) and a M.A. in Theology from the University of Heidelberg, Germany. For several years, she was a researcher on Medieval Apocalypticism in Munich and she taught in Germany and the US (adjunct professor at FSU). Further, Ute has worked in areas of translation, financial management, and office administration. Her interests include languages, philosophy, and house remodeling. Her goal is to provide maximum support to the endeavors of the Graduate School, the students, members of the staff, faculty, and Dean Marcus.

Continued on page 5
NEW GRADUATE SCHOOL STAFF

Continued from page 4

Umair Mughal
Web Support & Training Specialist

Umair joined the Graduate School staff in August. He has earned a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology from Florida State University. Before coming to the Graduate School, he worked for Florida Department of Children and Families and Government Services Group Inc as a database analyst. As the web support and training specialist, Umair provides training for Graduate Student Tracking to departments and assists the office in technical problems.

Austin Wildmann
Marketing Representative

Austin, a native of Arkansas, joined The Graduate School in May of this year as the Marketing Coordinator for online recruitment. She earned a B.A. in Public Relations with a Spanish minor from Murray State University in Kentucky. During her years there, Austin worked in the Office of Print Media and Publications writing for Roundabout Murray, the official University newsletter. Previously, she worked as a Digital Account Manager at the Zimmerman Agency here in Tallahassee. Austin enjoys working with the different departments to develop online marketing campaigns based on their specific needs. Her goal is to be an asset to Florida State University by helping to increase graduate enrollment.

FSU CELEBRATES NATIONAL POSTDOC APPRECIATION WEEK

BY: DR. KEISHA JOHN

In recognition of National Postdoc Appreciation Week, Florida State University held the 2014 Postdoctoral Symposium on Friday, September 19th in the College of Medicine Atrium and Auditorium. The second annual event gave our postdoctoral scholars an opportunity to present their cutting edge research in the sciences. Sir Harry Kroto, a co-recipient of the 1996 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, provided the keynote address, “How to Survive.” Donna Decker from the College of Business spoke about professional communication, and “Presenting Yourself/Your Science in three minutes or less.”

Dr. Keisha John, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School and Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, announced the winners and gave closing remarks. One poster presenter was chosen in each category: life sciences, physical sciences, and interdisciplinary sciences. Nine postdoctoral scholars also received a travel award to assist their career development. Thank you to our judges, panelists, poster presenters, and staff members who helped to make this event a success.

Congratulations to the 2014 Postdoc Symposium Poster Presenter Winners

INTERDISCIPLINARY SCIENCES
Pete Morton
(Earth Ocean and Atmospheric Science)
Particulate Trace Element Cycling in a Diatom Bloom near Hawaii

LIFE SCIENCES
Sarah Johnson
(Nutrition, Food & Exercise Sciences)
Beneficial Effects of Blueberry Consumption on Blood Pressure and Arterial Stiffness in Postmenopausal Women with Pre- and State 1- Hypertension

PHYSICAL SCIENCES
Shengyu Wang (MagLab)
The Highest Static Magnetic Field X-ray Diffractometer
FSU HOSTS SUCCESSFUL THINK GRADUATE SCHOOL WEEK

BY: DR. KEISHA JOHN

Think Graduate School Week is a new campus initiative designed to encourage undergraduate students to evaluate their career options and to pursue advanced degrees. Visitors had unprecedented access to our graduate programs in the form of tours, panels, classes, lectures, workshops, and open houses. The series was sponsored by the Graduate School, Career Center, Provost Office, and the Student Government Association. Dean Nancy Marcus produced a strong argument in favor of advanced education in her speech, “Why Graduate School?” At the end of the week, students went to a Final Reception and heard from both Dr. Marcus and Dr. Karen Laughlin, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Thank you to the many programs, departments, and colleges on campus whose cooperation made this week possible. We also wish to thank the local businesses that contributed prizes for our attendees.

2014-15 GRADUATE STUDENTS AWARDS

Each year the Graduate School honors the achievements of our students at the Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence, scheduled for April 8, 2015 at 3:30 PM at the FSU Alumni Center. Students may apply or be nominated for three distinctive awards, recognizing student commitment and excellence in the areas of teaching, research, and leadership.

OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARDS (OTAA)
Nomination Deadline: 1.12.2015
Sponsored annually by the Florida State University Graduate School, these awards recognize outstanding graduate student teaching assistants (TAs) for their distinguished contributions to undergraduate student learning through excellence in instruction. Nominations are invited from all currently enrolled FSU undergraduate students, faculty, and staff.

GRADUATE STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD
Application Deadline: 2.2.2015
Sponsored annually by Florida State University Graduate School and the Congress of Graduate Students, this award recognizes outstanding graduate student leaders who are making a positive difference in their scholarly/creative, campus, and wider communities.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH & CREATIVITY AWARDS
Application Deadline: 2.2.2015
Sponsored annually by Florida State University Graduate School and Office of Research, this award program is designed to recognize the superior contributions of graduate students to research and creative endeavors.

Interested in Applying?

The Dissertation Research Grant is an award of up to $750 provided by The Graduate School to assist doctoral students with expenses associated with research necessary to prepare dissertations. Applications for the Spring 2015 application cycle will be due in January 2015.

For more information, check out our website at www.gradschool.fsu.edu.

FALL 2014 DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANT (DRG)
RECIPIENTS

Recipients of the grant are awarded up to $750 to complete their research.

Carlos Arias
Chemistry and Biochemistry

Sarah Buck
Art History

Sarah Burkhart
Biomedical Sciences

Wonchan Choi
Information

Amber Farrington
Psychology

Milad Fatehnia
Civil Engineering

Katherine Forney
Psychology

John Goodrich
Psychology

Hakan Gungor
History

Whitney Guthrie
Psychology

Heather Holbach
Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences

Amber Kinsey
Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences

Seunghoo Lim
Public Administration

Jennifer Pride
Art History

Mariam Shaikh
Communication

Caroline Silva
Psychology

Julia Skinner
Information

Andrea Stathopoulos
Biological Science

Noah Venables
Psychology

Juntei Xia
Chemical Engineering

Sam Yang
Mechanical Engineering

Hye Jung Yun
Educational Psychology and Learning Systems

For more information on the application processes and these awards, visit gradschool.fsu.edu/Funding-Awards/Graduate-School-Awards/Student-Awards-and-Grants.
The fifth annual Carnival @ the FSU Reservation, also known as the Rez, for graduate students and their families was an exciting, successful event, with approximately 350 students and family members attending. Hosted by the Graduate School on September 27th from 1pm - 3:30pm, entertainment included face painting by members of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, crafts by the FSU Children’s Center staff, bluegrass music performed by the Eclectic Acoustic Band, and activities offered by the Rez, such as ping-pong, rock-climbing, canoeing and swimming. Free, roundtrip transportation was available from two stops on the FSU main campus by both bus and van. Families enjoyed soft drinks, hot dogs, popcorn, snow cones, and ice cream, thanks to the generosity of the Congress of Graduate Students, Student Government Association, Alumni Association, Housing, Office of Business Services, Center for Global Engagement, and the School of Communication. Due to its popularity, The Graduate School plans to continue to host the Carnival each fall. Below are pictures from the event.
RECOGNIZING STUDENT AND ALUMNI EXCELLENCE AT FSU

Rebecca Smith Bolinger
(MS 2007)
• Awarded the 2014 Postdocs Applying Climate Expertise (PACE) Fellowship through UCAR’s Visiting Scientist Program.

Semire Dikli
(MS 2002, PhD 2007)
• Published the article “Automated Essay Scoring Feedback for Second Language Writers: How does it Compare to Instructor Feedback?” in Assessing Writing.

Fernando Febres Cordero
(PhD 2007)
• Received the 2014 Sofja Kovalevskaja Award which is granted by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Bill Gillis
(PhD 2007)
• Earned researcher of the year at the Mitchell College of Business for the University of South Alabama for 2013-14.

Sarah Grieve
(MFA 2010)
• Awarded the 2014 Palooka Press Chapbook competition and subsequently published her chapbook Honey My Tongue through Palooka Press.

Raneitra Grover
(MPH 2012)
• Selected by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to lead the Team Nutrition Training Grant in Pasco County for the 2014-2015 school year.

Audra Helen Hayden
(MS 2010)
• Won Young Engineer of the Year for the state of Florida given by the Florida Engineering Society.

Jeremy Kasten
(MA 2010, PhD Candidate)
• Published the article “Écriture féminine, écriture traumatique’: Reinscribing the Wounded (Female) Body in ‘The Ravishing of Lol Stein’ in the journal Dandelion.

Jesse Krebs
(DM 2006)
• Published the article “Jimmy Giuffre: A Jazz Clarinet Original” in the June 2014 issue of The Clarinet journal.
• Awarded a grant from Truman State University to perform a guest clarinet recital and master class at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand.

Alan Leonardi
(MS 1998, PhD 2000)
• Selected as Director of the Office of Ocean Exploration and Research for NOAA.

John McEwen
(MS 2009)
• Graduated from Louisiana State University with a Ph.D. in Geography & Anthropology.

Calvin J. McFadden
(PhD 2010)
• Appointed Dean of the Sophomore Class and the Ada Comstock Scholars Program at Smith College.

Jason Grant McKahan
(PhD 2009)
• Promoted to Associate Professor and appointed Chair of Communication and New Media at Shepherd University.
• Published “King of Kings and the Politics of Masculinity in the Cold War Biblical Epic” as a chapter in Rybin and Scheibel’s Lonely Places, Dangerous Ground: Nicholas Ray in American Cinema.
Jane McPherson
(PhD Candidate)
• Co-authored the article “Using arts activism and poetry to catalyze human rights engagement and reflection in social work education” in Social Work Education: The International Journal.

Jon Mikolashek
(PhD 2007)
• Promoted to Associate Professor of History at the US Army Command and General Staff College.

Justin Moss
(PhD Candidate)
• Published “The Clock is Ticking: The Sound of a Ticking Clock Speeds up Women’s Attitudes on Reproductive Timing” in Human Nature.

Edgar G. Pavia
(MS 1985, PhD 1989)
• Co-authored the article “Assessment of RegCM4 simulated inter-annual variability and daily-scale statistics of temperature and precipitation over Mexico” in the journal Climate Dynamics.

Kyaunnee Richardson
(MM 2014)
• Granted the Sheler Eminent Scholar Chair Fund at the Music Convocation Honors Ceremony for high academic standing and musical talent as a Graduate Student.

Deborah Solomon
(PhD Candidate)
• Published the essay “Representations of Lyric Intimacy in Manuscript and Print Versions of Wyatt’s ‘They flee from me,’” in Modern Philology.

Lauren S. Tashman
(MS 2005, PhD 2010)
• Co-edited the text “Becoming a Sport, Exercise, & Performance Psychology Professional: a Global Perspective” through Routledge/Psychology Press.

Carla Maria Thomas
(MA 2008)
• Awarded the Schallek Award from the Medieval Academy of America.

Rachel Weihs
(MS 2012, PhD Candidate)
• Published “Modeled diurnally varying sea surface temperatures and their influence on surface heat fluxes” in Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans.

Jamey Worrell
(MAcc 1998, PhD 2008)
• Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor of Accounting at the University of Alabama Birmingham.

Carissa Zimmerman
(MS 2008, PhD 2010)
• Won the Duncan College Outstanding Faculty Associate award.

We want to hear about your accomplishments!

If you or someone you know is a current graduate student or alumni, and has had a recent publication, grant, promotion, or other noteworthy achievement, we’d love to feature it in the official Graduate School newsletter, GradConnection. Please fill out the quick form at the following link to tell us of the achievement.

REFLECTION ON FALL TA TEACHING WORKSHOP & UPCOMING SPRING TA TEACHING WORKSHOP/ORIENTATION

BY: DR. LISA LISENO

The Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE), in the Graduate School, offers all graduate students, post-docs, faculty, and staff at FSU the opportunity to attend a two-day university-wide teaching conference held the week before fall semester classes begin. This annual conference is designed to support graduate teaching assistants (TAs) in their teaching responsibilities by introducing them to best practices in teaching and learning and University-wide teaching policies. Over 500 TAs attended the conference that was held on August 20 and 21 in HCB 101.

Many University offices, including The Office of Faculty Development and Advancement, The University Registrar, The Center for Global Engagement, The Office of Distance Learning, The Student Disability Resource Center, and The FSU Libraries, along with award-winning faculty, participated in sharing key policies, skills, and teaching strategies to assist TAs and faculty in creating and facilitating the best learning environment for today’s FSU student. Overall, 15 sessions were offered throughout the two-day conference.

In the Spring, PIE will host the Spring TA Teaching Workshop/Orientation in the Great Hall of HSF. This will be held on January 9, 2105 from 1-4:30 p.m. Please check the website for more information and the registration link at www.pie.fsu.edu.