Message from the Dean

This has been an exciting year for The Graduate School and graduate education at The Florida State University. Early in Spring 2012 we relocated our office suite to Room 314 Westcott. The move provides a much more welcoming environment for current and prospective graduate students. In addition, the office walls now showcase graduate student artwork, in collaboration with the College of Visual Arts, Theatre, and Dance.

Increasing the financial support available for graduate students is a critical issue today. The Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards is once again reporting success in assisting graduate students to obtain external fellowships and awards. Fellowships awarded to our students since last year include the EPA Star Fellowship, IHR Junior Mellon Fellowship, AAUW International Fellowship, World Bank MMMF Grant, NSF Graduate Research Fellowships, NSF Dissertation Research Grant, and P.E.O. Continuing Education Grant. I encourage students to meet with Dr. Anne Marie West, the Director for guidance on opportunities for which they are eligible. Many of our outstanding students were recognized in early April at the Celebration for Graduate Student Excellence. Once again this was a wonderful event, highlighted by Provost Garnett Stokes’ keynote address. More information on all of the recipients is provided elsewhere in this newsletter.

Another approach to increase funds for graduate education is through private philanthropy. We are actively trying to increase the availability of fellowship funds under the umbrella of the Fellows Society Big Ideas initiative. A key goal of the Fellows Society is to promote interdisciplinary engagement. An exciting complement to this effort is the Honors, Scholars, and Fellows House that is in the planning phase, which is described in more detail in this newsletter. Located on Honors Way adjacent to Landis Green this facility will provide space for the Fellows Society, Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards, and the Program for Instructional Excellence.

Have a wonderful summer,

Nancy Marcus
Outstanding FSU graduate students were recognized for excellence in teaching, research & creativity, and leadership at the University’s annual Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence on April 11th. The Graduate School, the Office of Research, and the Congress of Graduate Students co-sponsored the event.

Dr. Garnett Stokes, Provost, delivered the keynote and was joined in the ceremony by Dr. Nancy Marcus, Dean of The Graduate School; Dr. Judy Devine, Senior Associate Dean of The Graduate School; Connie Eudy, Director, Program for Instructional Excellence, The Graduate School; Rebecca Ormiston, graduate student in the School of Theatre; and Steve Zimmer, Business Development Manager from Sony Direct. Sara Young from the College of Music was the pianist.

For the third year, the FSU Computer Store and the Graduate School partnered with the Sony Corporation to randomly select graduate students and junior faculty to receive technology packages.

The Research and Creativity Award recipients were recognized for outstanding research and creativity in the academic community at FSU. The recipients of these awards are: Joshua Cochran (Criminology); Elise Gornish (Biological Science); Sebastian Kurtek (Statistics); Zarko Manojlovic (Biomedical Sciences); and Adam Smith (Neuroscience).

Peter Kunze (English) received the Graduate Student Leadership Award.

Nominated by faculty, staff, and students, the winners of the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award were recognized for excellence in teaching and for their substantial contribution to student learning at FSU. The recipients of this award are: Deirdre Carter (Art History); Eric Jones (Biological Science); Tony Purvis (Interior Design); Jennifer Sexton (Management); Ryan Shields (Criminology); and Spencer Wise (English).

The Fellows Society held an interdisciplinary poster session during the event, which was coordinated by Dr. Jennifer Feltman. The session showcased the current research of the following fellows: Jean Kleimeyer (Clinical Psychology); Josh Cossuth (EOAS); Andrea Arce-Trigatti (International Affairs); Jennifer Misuraca (Physics); Sungkyu Jang (Public Admin. & Policy); and Jane McPherson (Social Work).
The Graduate School congratulates our outstanding students who have received national recognition for their accomplishments. This year’s accolades include:

**American Association of University Women (AAUW) International Fellowship**
Haddy Njie (Education)

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Fellowship**
Josh Grinath (Biological Science)

**IHR Junior Mellon Fellowship**
Kathryn Lechler (English)
Aimee Wilson (English)

**Network of Executive Women in Hospitality (NEWH) Platinum Scholarship**
Amber Sargent (Interior Design)

**NSF Dissertation Research Improvement Grant**
Debra Trusty, Classics

**NSF Graduate Research Fellowship**
Chelsie Wagner (Biological Science)

**PEO Continuing Education Grant**
Jana Orton (Social Work)

**World Bank MMMF Educational Grant**
Haddy Njie (Education)

Please contact the Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards to learn more about national awards and notify us if you have received an award. Email: ogfa-info@fsu.edu
http://ogfa.fsu.edu/

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**The Graduate School Student Awards**

**Graduate Student Leadership Award**
Peter Kunze, English

**Research & Creativity Award**
Elise Gornish, Biological Science  
Sebastian Kurtek, Statistics  
Zarko Manojlovic, Biomedical Sciences  
Joshua Cochran, Criminology  
Adam Smith, Psychology

**Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**
Eric Jones, Biological Science  
Spencer Wise, English  
Jennifer Sexton, Management  
Ryan Shields, Criminology  
Deirdre Carter, Art History  
Tony Purvis, Interior Design

Leadership Award winner, Peter Kunze (English) poses with the Graduate Dean, Dr. Nancy Marcus.
**THE GRAD SCHOOL AWARDS**

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE FACULTY MENTOR AWARD**
- Michael Brady, Marketing
- Stanley Gontarski, English
- Reb Braddock, Motion Picture Arts
- Richard Hyson, Psychology
- Valerie Scoon, Motion Picture Arts

**RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH & CREATIVITY**
- Fritz Davis, History
- Richard Morris, Communication Science & Disorders
- Sonja Siennick/Patricia Warren Hightower, Criminology & Criminal Justice

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**THE GRADUATE SCHOOL GRANTS**

**DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANT (FALL 2011)**
- Hilary Conley, Classics
- Peter Kunze, English
- Scott Ortolano, English
- Lindsay Phillips, English
- Wallace Salkauski, Modern Languages
- Andrew Polk, Religion
- Candice Franco, Educational Psychology & Learning Systems
- Emily Simonavice, Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Science
- Haiyan Maier, Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Sciences
- Katherine Geeseman, Music
- Jungwon Park, Public Administration & Policy
- Kaiju Chang, Public Administration & Policy
- Sungkyu Jang, Public Administration & Policy
- Patrick McGrady, Sociology, College of Social Sciences and Public Policy

**DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANT (SPRING 2012)**
- Aimee Wilson, English
- Paul Ardoin, English
- Anna Caney, History
- Eileen Locke, Modern Languages
- Estrella Rodriguez, Modern Languages
- Tammy Heise, Religion
- Katina Thompson, Management
- Emily Marturana, Communication Disorders
- Lakeisha Cooper, Communication Disorders
- Shruti Nair, Communication
- Christopher Small, Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
- Haddy Njie, Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
- Jennifer Riggie, Teacher Education
- Rebekah Dorn, Educational Psychology & Learning Systems
- Terrie Andrews, Educational Psychology & Learning Systems
- Jun Woo Kim, Sports Management
- Timothy Kellison, Sports Management
- Xinya Liang, Educational Measurement & Statistics
- Mengna Su, Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Sciences
- Helen Phipps, Biomedical Science
- Yen-Hsuan Yang, Music Education
- Aisha Azhar, Public Administration & Policy
- HeeJae Lee, Public Administration & Policy
- Hongtao Yi, Public Administration & Policy
- Muhammad Shamaileh, Political Science
- Summer McWilliams, Sociology
- Bradley Hostetler, Art History
On March 30th, members of the FSU Fellows Society participated in the annual interdisciplinary Fellows Forum. This year's topic addressed scientific, cultural, and humanitarian issues facing modern food systems. The Forum was organized by current fellows, Torsha Battacharya (Urban & Regional Planning), Joseph Davenport (Mass Communications), Karin Jeffery (Sport Psychology), Mary Marcous (Philosophy), and Alexa Warwick (Biological Science) under the direction of the Fellows Society Coordinator, Dr. Jennifer Feltman.

Presentations given by faculty and professionals from a wide range of disciplines demonstrated how the problems facing modern food systems are not isolated to any one field. Discussion suggested that solutions will require greater collaboration among specialists. Panelists included Dr. Nora Underwood (Biological Science), Dr. Felicia Coleman, (Coastal & Marine Lab), William D. Clay (International Affairs & Nutrition), Dr. Ed Barnard (Florida Forest Service), Kareem Usher (Urban & Regional Planning, and Dr. Jennifer Taylor (FAMU Small Farms).

A keynote address from FSU Alumnus and Co-Founder of CleanFish, Dale Sims, discussed his own entrepreneurial approach to providing sustainably sourced fish to the restaurant industry.

**New Honors, Scholars, & Fellows House**

The Fellows Society, the Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards, and the Program for Instructional Excellence will soon have a home in the new Honors, Scholars, and Fellows House, which will be located in the heart of the FSU campus by Landis Green. The new facility, scheduled to be completed in June 2013, will also house the undergraduate Honors Program, the Office of National Fellowships, and the Office of Undergraduate Research. This new building will provide space for events, such as the Fellows Forum, and will create an environment for fellows and other highly motivated and engaged undergraduate and graduate students to interact with one another. Click the link below to view a live webcam of the construction site: http://www.facilities.fsu.edu/FDC/webcam
Tiffany Baker (MA 2008) is now the Director of the Florida Legislative Research Center at the Florida Historic Capitol Museum in Tallahassee.

Sean Beavers (DM 2006) is now serving as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Liberty University, where he also serves as Associate Professor of Guitar and Music Theory.

Keith Berry (MA 1991; PhD 2005) gave a presentation at the 92nd Meeting of the American Association of Community Colleges in Orlando, FL on successful 21st–Century Minority Male Mentoring Programs.

The film version of Matt Bondurant’s (PhD 2003) second novel, *The Wettest County In the World*, will be released nationwide on August 31, 2012. The film, titled “Lawless,” was directed by John Hillcoat (The Road) and stars Shia Labeouf, Jessica Chastain, Tom Hardy, Gary Oldman, Guy Pierce, and Mia Wasikowsai.

Megan Leigh Coward (MA 2012) will be serving as an English Teacher and Teacher Trainer with the United States Peace Corps in Cambodia from July of 2012 until September of 2014. Megan will be serving with the sixth group of volunteers to enter Cambodia.

Jeff Dickey (PhD 2006) was hired as a GIS Specialist with the State of Louisianna’s Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

Paul M. Gignac (PhD 2010), junior faculty member at the Stony Brook University School of Medicine, was invited to share his expertise in crocodile biology and evolution in a public lecture and filmed internet television show called Science on Tap.

Juan B. Gutierrez (PhD 2009) has been appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia. His dual appointment in the Department of Mathematics and the Institute of Bioinformatics begins in August 2012.

Shannon Hall-Mills (PhD 2010) received an ASHA Editor’s Award for her article with Dr. Kenn Apel, “Differential effects of letter name spelling and text representation in early reading ability,” in *Contemporary Issues in Communication Science & Disorders*. She was also elected Vice President of Communications for the Florida Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (FLASHA).

Jesse Krebs (DM 2006) recently received tenure status at Truman State University in Kirksville, MO, where he is Associate Professor of Music. This summer he will be performing at the International Clarinet Association Conference in Lincoln, NE.

Nolan Katz (PhD, 2009) and Sheba Katz (PhD, 2008) started a private practice in Fort Myers, Florida called Katz Counseling and Educational Psychology, which provides psychological assessment, intervention, and consultation services to residents of Southwest Florida.
Karen McLaughlin Large (DM 2010) was appointed to the music faculty at Kansas State University in August 2011. She is an Assistant Professor of Music and teaches flute, music theory, and world music.

Mary Larkin (PhD 2006) won the 2011 Southern Indiana Review Mary C. Mohr Editors’ Fiction Award for her story “All That Was His,” which will be published late Spring 2012.

Greg McCandless (PhD 2010) has been promoted to Department Chair of Music Composition at Full Sail University. He now oversees 14 music history, music theory, and music composition faculty in an online Bachelor’s degree program for Full Sail, located in Winter Park, FL.

Jennifer Perrine (PhD 2006) was awarded tenure at Drake University and promoted to the rank of associate professor.

William B. Russell III (PhD 2006) was awarded the rank of associate professor with tenure at the University of Central Florida in 2011. His fifth book titled, Contemporary Social Studies: An Essential Reader, was also recently published.

Allen Sealls (MS 1987) was awarded his third regional news Emmy award in December 2011. Alan is chief meteorologist at WKRG, Mobile, Alabama.

Tadarrayl M. Starke (MS 2010) was selected by FSU Alumni Association National Board of Directors as one of the Thirty Under Thirty of all FSU alumni from around the world.

Joseph Trivette (PhD 2003) continues to serve as the Albert Endowed Chair of Music at Southwest Virginia Community College. Recently his community chorus was invited to sing at the National Cathedral and the National Shrine and Saint Patrick’s Cathedral (NY). He also received grants to continue the SWCC Chamber Music Institute and Jazz-America’s Music concerts.

Alejandra (Alex) Vargas (PhD 2009) was accepted as a Resnick Fellow and Bard College MAT Grant recipient. These awards, totaling $50,000, will fund a graduate residency program, an MA in Teaching, provide a living stipend to work with migrant communities in California’s Central Valley.

Jessie L. Whitehead (PhD 2000) was awarded the National Art Education Association’s 2012 J. Eugene Grigsby, Jr. Award. She is currently Assistant Professor of Art at Southern Connecticut State University.

Margaret E. Wright-Cleveland (PhD 2009) was awarded the Hemingway Foundation and Society’s 2012 Smith-Reynolds Founders Fellowship for her project From the Beginning: The Racial Indoctrination of Ernest Hemingway.

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Opening
August 20
2012

Greek philosopher Plato said: “The part can never be well unless the whole is well” and we couldn’t agree more at University Health Services (UHS).

University Health Services is accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Healthcare (AAAHC) and is a primary care facility providing medical care and outreach programs through a team of dedicated professionals.

The medical professionals at University Health Services are passionate about student health and committed to helping students perform at their best. Many of our medical professionals hold board certifications in specialty areas of medicine such as women's health, psychiatry and internal medicine.

As graduate students, you are fully focused on your academic career. Coursework, research, teaching and conferences can easily cause you to overlook the one thing that helps you maintain focus: personal wellness.

At UHS, wellness is more than just being free from illness—it's about understanding all aspects of personal health and learning to make choices that positively impact quality of life. We see wellness as an ongoing process that provides a strong, healthy foundation for academic achievement and lifelong success.

Cindy Ermus (PhD candidate) had her article, “Reduced to Ashes: The Good Friday Fire of 1788 in Spanish Colonial New Orleans,” accepted for publication in the Louisiana History Journal. She recently conducted research in Paris, Aix-en-Provence, Marseille, Cadiz, Seville, & Madrid for her dissertation on the Plague of Provence in a global context.

Sabrina Frey (MFA student) was awarded Best Poster at the Interior Design Educators Council national conference in Baltimore for her poster based on her thesis, which investigates connections of well-being to the design of interior spaces.

Amber Sargent (MA student) was awarded a $10,000 Platinum scholarship by the National Executive Women in Hospitality organization.

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**Staff Spotlight**

Chelsey Mason, The Graduate School’s new Accounting Specialist, is in charge of extensions, dual enrollment, appeals, four fellowships, managing the budget, and travel. She is a proud Tallahassee native who attended FSUS (Florida High) from K-12 and applied to attend FSU because it was her top choice for college. She graduated from FSU in 2007 with a double-major in accounting and real estate. Since graduating, she has worked in the non-profit sector with the TCC Foundation and for the past two years for the State of Florida.