

## **Grad Connections Winter 2012**

### **A Newsletter for OSU Graduate Students**

Winter term has started, and the Graduate School wants to provide you with information on upcoming deadlines, useful information as you go through your program, and new ways to connect with other students, advisors and graduate faculty. We hope that this newsletter will be helpful to you and that you will stop by 300 Kerr if you have additional questions, or if we can assist you in any way. Also, don't hesitate to contact me at any time. My contact information is at the end of this newsletter.

#### **New Hours for the Graduate School Office**

Starting December 1<sup>st</sup>, the Graduate School office is now open over the lunch hour. We also have a drop box if you need to leave forms for us after our business hours of 8:00-5:00. Services available over the lunch hour may be limited because staff may be on their lunch break, but someone will be available at the front desk to answer your questions and help you to the degree possible.

#### **Driving "Curiosity" on Mars**

Associate Dean Martin Fisk has received a Fulbright Scholarship and sabbatical to conduct research at the University of Bergen in Norway for six months starting January 2012. He will conduct research on bacterial life in the Earth's subsurface, which surprisingly is about as plentiful as bacterial life in the Earth's surface biosphere. This work is also related to understanding subsurface life on other planets and he has been selected to participate in the operation of the just-launched NASA Mars Curiosity rover. The rover will reach Mars in August 2012 and Dean Fisk will help operate it from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California for three months in late summer 2012. During his absence he will maintain a virtual presence in the Graduate School.

#### **Growing Graduate Fellowships**

The Graduate School is embarking on its first Capital Campaign effort focused on raising funds to establish endowments for Graduate Fellowships and Scholarships. Through the generosity of a Graduate Program Alumna, a Graduate Fellowship in Conservation Biology is being established by Angie Evenden and when complete this fellowship will provide the funding to support a Graduate Research Assistantship in perpetuity in this area. Such interdisciplinary fellowships are administered by the Graduate School and others which are more disciplinary in nature, are administered by academic colleges. You can help us support graduate fellowships for future

students. We have 2482 graduate faculty and over 3700 current graduate students. Imagine if each of these 6000+ individuals contributed just \$10 or more each toward this effort we could be well on our way to establishing the endowments needed to support students in the future. Contributing is easy: Go to our home page: [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/) and in the bottom left corner is the weblink to make an online donation. Alternatively, faculty and staff can make a donation directly from your monthly paycheck, just as I do.

### **Open Forums about Graduate Education at OSU**

Calling all graduate students! The Graduate School, in collaboration with ASOSU and the Coalition for Graduate Employees, will be holding a series of open forums in Winter term to gather ideas and feedback for the advancement of graduate education at OSU. The Graduate School is in the process of developing a new 5-year Strategic Plan, and we want graduate student voices to be heard and included in this plan. We will address such topics as Graduate Teaching and Research Assistantship funding, program quality, and professional development opportunities, among many more! Four open forums will be held to accommodate the large graduate student population on campus:

- January 31th, 1:00 - 2:30pm
- February 1st, 9:00am - 10:30am
- February 6th, 4:00 - 5:30pm
- February 7<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm - 5:30pm - open to international graduate students only

All forums will be held in **Memorial Union 109**. Please visit the Graduate School's website for more information and to RSVP with your attendance, or contact Courtney Everson at [eversonc@onid.orst.edu](mailto:eversonc@onid.orst.edu). If you cannot attend an open forum, but have ideas to share, please feel free to contact Courtney Everson at any time during your studies at OSU. Refreshments and raffle prizes will be provided at each open forum, and we look forward to having many of you attend!

### **Screening of the PhD Movie "Piled Higher and Deeper"**

Save the date! From the well-known comic strip webseries "Piled Higher & Deeper", the OSU Graduate School, in collaboration with ASOSU and the Coalition for Graduate Employees, is proud to present a special screening of the newly released PhD Movie. The movie will be screened at 7:00pm on 1/19/2012 in Milam Auditorium. Free admission and refreshments starting at 6:00pm! Take a break from Winter quarter tasks and come enjoy this comical film with your fellow graduate students, and take part in an informal discussion afterwards about graduate education and concerns on the OSU campus. For more information, please contact Courtney Everson at [eversonc@onid.orst.edu](mailto:eversonc@onid.orst.edu).

## Lunch with the Dean

Throughout the academic year, I will be taking 5-6 students out to lunch every Friday. If you want to schedule a time to have lunch with me, please contact my Executive Assistant Nagwa Naguib at [Nagwa.Naguib@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Nagwa.Naguib@oregonstate.edu). We usually meet at the MU a little before noon and go to Pangea or to a place on Monroe.

## Responsible Conduct of Research

Upon high demand, the Graduate School is offering an additional session of IST 520, Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR), 1 credit course, during **Spring 2012**. This course was taught in the last couple of fall terms, as an experimental course. The course introduces graduate students to ten topics in ethical and responsible conduct of research. Details will be posted in the Announcements section of the Graduate School website ([http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/)) within the next few weeks.

## Mentors, Mentees, and Mentorship - Being Effective

What should you expect from your advisor as a Graduate Student? What should your graduate advisor expect from you? Sometimes expectations differ between the student and the advisor and this can lead to a number of issues. As Gene Russo (2011) commented on in his recent article in *Nature* (<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v475/n7357/full/nj7357-533a.html>), many students do not know what to expect when they start their graduate program, and many advisors expect their new students to be just like they were when they went through their programs. But times change and cultures evolve. Quoting Russo, "Advisors might not be doing enough to help graduate students to navigate the difficult later stages of their degrees – at least, the survey suggests that students perceive a deficiency." The Graduate School offers professional development training and guidance for students, advisors and supervisors to ensure that mentoring is effective [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/mentoring.php](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/mentoring.php)

## Steps to Success

- You will find flow charts for masters and doctoral programs in the "Guide to Success" on the Graduate School web site [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/current/success.html](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/current/success.html). These are thumbnail guides to your degree and will help you move successfully to completion of your degree.
- If you are a master's candidate in your first year, you should be meeting with your advisor to develop your program of study. You may find details about master's programs of study at these two sites, <http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/ChapterDetail.aspx?key=39#Section2264> and [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/current/forms.html#program](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/current/forms.html#program). Details about doctoral programs of study can be found at <http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/ChapterDetail.aspx?key=40>.

## Graduate Women's Network (GWN)

The Graduate Women's Network (GWN) is a social gathering specifically for Graduate Women at OSU to network, learn from guest speakers and special guests, and build connections.

This term, there will be three socials:

- January 19, 5:30-7: Reception with President & Mrs. Ray (by RSVP only, see announcement)
- February 7, 2-4pm: Women's Center: Meet & Greet with Dr. Brenda McComb, Dean of the Graduate School
- March 6, 2-4pm: Women's Center: CV Writing Workshop with Marian Moore from the OSU Career Center.

Please Contact Sarah McConnel, SisterScholars Program Coordinator ([sarah.mcconnel@oregonstate.edu](mailto:sarah.mcconnel@oregonstate.edu) or 541-737-3175), if you have questions, comments, or would like to request any accommodation. Please note that the Women's Center is a child-friendly space.

## Feedback on MyOSU Portal needed

Graduate students now have access to MyOSU, a portal that compiles a wealth of links to important and frequently used web sites. To view MyOSU, log on at <http://myosu.oregonstate.edu> using your ONID ID and password. We appreciate your feedback about the usefulness of the content.

## Library Services for Graduate Students

Did you know the library has a website just for graduate students? Click on the "grad students" link on the library's homepage (<http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/graduate-students>), and learn more about interlibrary loan and scan and deliver document service, finding theses and dissertations, using the library as a GTA, or about library workshops for graduate students.

## WORKSHOPS:

**Intellectual Property, Tech Transfer and YOU:** Protecting intellectual property is a key factor enabling any researcher to translate research to a marketable product. Join our expert panel in a Webinar exploring the roles of students, postdocs, faculty, and Tech Transfer in the protection process. **Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.**, co-sponsored by the Center for Sustainable Materials Chemistry. Register early to save a space. Event is free.

## Our Generation - Our Purpose

The 2012 Art of Leadership Conference Committee invites college students from all over Oregon to its conference scheduled for **Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**. OSU students attending will have an opportunity to win one of three \$1000 scholarships for Spring term. Register by going to

<https://surveys.bus.oregonstate.edu/main.aspx?SurveyID=4692&cmd=survey>

## **Mentoring Workshops by Hugh Kearns**

Hugh Kearns, from Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia has agreed to return to Oregon State University for the third year to present six workshops to the graduate students and advisors.

Mr. Kearns is best known as a lecturer and researcher with international expertise in the area of self-management. He draws on the latest research in psychology and education and applies this to high performing groups such as Ph.D. students, academic staff, medical professionals and senior executives. He has lectured regularly at universities across Australia, the UK, Ireland and the U.S. and received a national teaching award in recognition of his innovative approach and outstanding outcomes.

The workshops will be held **February 21, 22 and 23** in the Memorial Union 109. Workshops are scheduled for two and half hours each. Below is a list of the workshops:

1. The 7 Secrets of Highly Successful Doctoral Candidates - (offered twice)
2. Creating The 7 Secrets of Highly Successful Ph.D. Candidates (for advisors)
3. Turbocharge Your Writing
4. Presenting Your Research with Confidence
5. Using Idea Maps/Mind Maps in Your Research

For times and registration, go to <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=chbsb>! You don't want to miss those workshops!!

## **Postdoctoral Programs Workshops:**

1. **Creative Ideas for University Teaching. January 18, 12:00-1:30.** The Office of Postdoctoral Programs will partner with Prof. Dedra Demaree of the OSU Physics Department and Robin Pappas of the Center for Teaching and Learning to provide a short and engaging workshop to share ideas for effective classroom teaching. Physics Yunker Library, Weniger 379.
2. **Your Role In Making The World A Better Place And Making Money (For You) Along The Way. February 15, 12:00-1:30.** The Office of Postdoctoral Programs will partner with Dr. Mary Phillips of the OSU Office for Commercialization and Corporate Development in this workshop to help you learn how creative, academic ideas can be transformed into commercial enterprises. Even if you've never thought about commercial applications of your work in the past, you are likely to be interested in the breadth of commercial opportunities that are available. Location TBD (watch for the weekly Postdoc Newsletter).

## GTA Brown Bag Sessions

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) is excited to announce the winter series of GTA Brown Bag Sessions. GTA Brown Bags are 90-minute discussion-based sessions facilitated by veteran GTAs from colleges across campus and are tailored to address the needs of graduate teaching assistants. Brown Bags are a great opportunity for GTAs to network with students in other disciplines, discuss challenges they are facing in the classroom, and gain information valuable to their teaching.

This term the CTL will be offering five GTA Brown Bags. Online registration will be available two weeks before the session is offered. Refreshments will be offered at each session. More information and registration details are available at the following link <http://oregonstate.edu/ctl/workshops>

- 1. Diversity in the Classroom: Understanding the Impact of Cognitive Bias**  
Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 12:30-2:00 pm, Valley Library-Willamette West Room (Registration available January 17<sup>th</sup>).  
Presented by: Jennifer Almquist, Interim Associate Director for Equity and Inclusion Programs and Initiatives and Roni Sue, Equal Opportunity Associate.
- 2. Tips and Techniques for Improving Discussion**  
Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-1:30 pm, Milam 215 (Registration available January 23<sup>rd</sup>). Presented by: Adam Chouinard, Zoology GTA, Chern Lin Koh, Food Science GTA, and Maduka Ogba, Chemistry GTA.
- 3. Effective Grading Practices for Written Assignments**  
Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2:00 pm, Milam 215 (Registration available February 6<sup>th</sup>). Presented by: Marjorie Coffey, English Instructor, Zach Pajak, WIC GTA, and Jaime Zinck, English GTA.
- 4. Prezi in the Classroom**  
Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2:00pm, Milam 215 (Registration available February 20<sup>th</sup>). Presented by: Michelle Waldron, Education/Science GTA.
- 5. Effective Grading Practices for Quizzes and Problem Sets**  
Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2:00pm, Willamette West Room, Valley Library (Registration available February 28<sup>th</sup>). Presented by: Debbi Gilbuena, Chemical Engineering GTA & Ben Sherrett, Mechanical Engineering GTA.

## Library Workshops

Whether you are a new student learning to use library resources here at OSU, or an experienced student looking for motivation to organize all the articles you found over the break, the library has a workshop that can help you out with that. All library workshops are free, so sign up now! Register and find out more information about the following workshops at this site: <http://ica.library.oregonstate.edu/subject-guide/656>.

## DEADLINES!!

Students wishing to receive Winter 2012 diplomas, must complete all degree requirements including submission of the final, approved thesis no later than the last day of Winter term (March 23, 2012). There are other deadlines that you will need to meet as well. These are listed under "Deadlines" in the "Guide to Success."

- Your **final oral examinations** need to be scheduled with the Graduate School ahead of time - two weeks for both masters' and doctoral final oral exams. Exam scheduling forms are available on the Graduate School web site: [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/phpforms/event.php](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/phpforms/event.php).
- Students who wish to request a **leave of absence** must submit the request for leave to the Graduate School 15 working days prior to the beginning of the term. Leave forms are available on the Graduate School web site: [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/forms.php](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/forms.php).
- The 2012-13 funding cycle for centralized scholarships and fellowships administered by the Graduate School will begin in early January 2012. Students must be nominated by their graduate programs to be given consideration. Information about the Graduate School's financial support programs can be found at: [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/fellowships.php](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/fellowships.php).
- The Graduate School administers a program that is designed to provide part of the costs of attending and presenting scholarly achievements at prestigious conferences and venues. For travel between February 1 and June 30, the deadline is February 1, 2012. Details about the program can be found at: [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/travel.php](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/travel.php).

## GTA/GRA Positions

If you are looking for a GTA or a GRA position, please check Beaver JobNet or the Graduate School website for announcements.

## The Graduate School on Facebook

To keep up with news about OSU graduate students, and make other connections, consider adding our Facebook page to your Favorites.

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/osu.graduateschool.page>

**Check our Web Page for News**

The Graduate School frequently updates the "Announcements" on its home page ([http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad\\_school/](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/)). Please check it for news, workshops, funding opportunities, and other events.

**Have a great Winter Term!!!**

**Brenda McComb, Dean**

The Graduate School

Rm 300 Kerr Admin Bldg

Oregon State University

Corvallis, Oregon, 97330 USA

[brenda.mccomb@oregonstate.edu](mailto:brenda.mccomb@oregonstate.edu)

Phone: 541-737-4881, Fax: 541-737-3313