For the Week of February 16, 2014

Graduate School News and Events

Deadlines and Events

April 11 - Submission of Ph. D. exam report forms
April 18 - Submission of final approved theses/dissertations
May 4 - Commencement

Student Volunteers Needed

We are in need of student volunteers for March recruitment to be escort hosts and lunch or dinner hosts. On March 7, 2014, we need 10 students to be student escort hosts/lunch hosts (Free lunch!) and 6 for afternoon student escort hosts/dinner hosts (Free dinner!). To sign up, please e-mail Lauren Graham at bsgp@osumc.edu.

Announcements

Juan Moliva and Nick Chesarino were selected to make a presentation at the American Association of Immunologists Annual meeting.

Komal Rambani is President of the Association of Women in Science Central Ohio Chapter (AWISCO) and in March 2014 will be recognized by Unplugging Society: A Women of Color Think Tank at OSU, as one of
three Award Recipients as they celebrate the contributions and achievements of empowering female role models at The Ohio State University. Komal was selected for her positive impact and inspiration to other women, inside and outside of the OSU community.

**Attention All Students**

You are encouraged to stop by the newly renovated Graduate Student Lounge on the first floor of Graves Hall. This room is located just down the hall from the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program office in 1166 Graves Hall (near exit at east end of hallway). There are several computers available for use as well as a printer. In addition there is a refrigerator, microwave and adequate space for quiet studying. The door code is 0857#. Happy Studying!

**Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program Food Drive**

Share the love! Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program is conducting a food drive to support the Columbus Cancer Clinic and Groceries to Go from February 10- February 24. Please consider donating any non-perishable food items. Specially requested items include tuna fish, canned vegetables and fruits, soup, macaroni and cheese, and pasta. Drop off locations will be in the lobbies of the BRT, Tzagournis, Wiseman, DHLRI, and the biomedical sciences office in Graves 1178. If you have any questions, please contact Christina Knippler at knippler.1@osu.edu. Thank you for your support in giving back to the community!

**Attend the Hayes Graduate Research Forum, February 21**

The Hayes Graduate Research Forum is Friday, Feb. 21, 2014 in the Ohio Union. The forum features research conducted by Ohio State graduate students from across the full range of graduate programs. Details. The Hayes Forum is co-sponsored by the Graduate School, Office of Research, and Council of Graduate Students. Contact: Jamie Crowsley, chair, Hayes Forum, and vice president, Council of Graduate Students.

**The Presidential Fellowship : Call for Nominations**

The Presidential Fellowships recognize the outstanding scholarly accomplishments and potential of graduate students entering the final phase of their dissertation research or terminal degree project. These fellowships provide financial support to students so that they may devote one year of full-time study to the completion of the dissertation or degree project unimpeded by other duties. Recipients of this award embody the highest standards of scholarship in our graduate programs. A minimum of a 3.6 GPA is required (a 3.8 or higher GPA is competitive for the competition).

In advance of the Graduate School's submission deadline, the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program will need any applications of students who wish to be considered by Monday, March 17.

You may email your completed application with the materials below to Amy Lahmers at lahmers.8@osu.edu. Once we receive student applications, the Program Directors will rank the applicants and write the Graduate Studies Committee Chair's nomination letter.
Required materials:
1. Student’s current Academic Advising Report
2. Student’s complete graduate vitae
3. Abstract of dissertation proposal or terminal degree project
4. Student’s research statement
5. Advisor’s statement
6. Three letters of evaluation only (excluding the advisor’s statement)

See the Guidelines for further details.

Dissertation Committee Meeting Minutes: Biomedical Sciences
Students and Mentors

We are sending a friendly reminder of the required Dissertation Committee meetings. The Meeting with Dissertation Committee Meeting Minutes form will be required before a grade is posted for IBGP 8999 in Spring 2014. If the form is not submitted by the end of the Spring semester, an Unsatisfactory grade will be posted. Please keep in mind that we do not wish to burden you with more meetings for no reason, but rather that these meetings will help focus the students on what needs to be accomplished for their doctoral degree. All students are expected to establish their dissertation committee in their second year and meet once in the student’s second year (before the candidacy exam, which is in the fall of 3rd year). After that, the Committee should meet every 6-12 months.

Format of meeting: Students should assemble a committee of three faculty members in addition to the mentor and this should include at least one faculty member from outside their department. The Candidacy Examination committee should have a chair who is not the student’s mentor. The Committee should also consist of a minimum of four faculty members, with at least two faculty members who have mentored at least one student who has graduated with his/her PhD. Before the meeting the student should prepare and distribute to the committee a short paragraph describing the project and a simple list of aims. This brief outline will help add structure to the meeting. The student should also bring the Meeting with Dissertation Committee Meeting Minutes form (attached and available at http://medicine.osu.edu/bsgp/current-students/student-handbook-and-forms/pages/index.aspx). We encourage you to follow the following format: the meeting begins with the student out of the room so that the faculty members can discuss progress. Then the student returns and has a short presentation describing their project, specific aims, and progress. The committee does not judge the student but advises the student on ways to meet the objectives or on alternative plans. At the end of the meeting, the chair completes the minutes form, the faculty members sign the form, and the mentor leaves the room so that the student can discuss with the committee members any issues they did not want to discuss with the mentor present.

SUCCESS Graduate Student Committee- Seeking New Members

You may have already heard that the SUCCESS Program (Summer Course Creating Excellence in Scientific Study), managed by the MSTP, will welcome its third class in June 2014. (Program dates: May 31 through Aug 2) One of the important parts of the program is that we give these college students the chance to interact with current MD-PhD and PhD students. The past two years both the SUCCESS students and the grad students (who worked with them) found the experience to be incredibly
enjoyable and rewarding. We felt that the OSU graduate students who participated were a tremendous resource that made the program as successful as it turned out.

As we plan for the summer of 2014, we are again soliciting to identify MD-PhD and PhD students who would like to participate in this summer activity. Specifically, we are looking for interested students to take part in planning and assisting in SUCCESS events. In addition to serving as a resource for SUCCESS students, we are looking for current students for the following SUCCESS Committees:

* Journal Club committee: Scheduling a Journal Club Roster, Attend Journal Clubs, Teach the first few classes on the importance of JC (done in grad school often), how to search, how to give the talk, present an example- either yourself or solicit a grad student. This is on Tuesday and Friday Mornings (breakfast provided)
* Orientation committee: Plan a small outing before the students come to Orientation (last year students walked around the short north and went to Jeni's for ice-cream). Take students on campus tour during orientation week. Serve as a resource for the students until they feel comfortable at OSU
* Social Events/Activity committee: Last year grad students planned a visit to the Columbus Zoo, Clippers Game, Battleship activity in the RPAC's pool, and a trip to Hocking Hills. 2012 leaders planned and executed a dinner and movie night at the Arena district, a trip to Hocking Hills, and a trip to COSI. May need to meet on a monthly basis from March until June. Our expectation is that we will have 2 student committee leaders for each, but any interested students can participate and share the work. The SUCCESS Graduate Committee (SGC) has a 9-week time commitment of 2-6 hours per week and sometimes is asked to drive students around because they typically come without a car, however we hope that our Graduate Students will find their time with the SUCCESS Students rewarding and help build their leadership skills that they will need to have to become a future mentor.

SUCCESS committee members are invited to all Major events, (including the welcome Dinner at the Ohio Stadium and the Closing Ceremony at the Union), and other fun goings on during the summer.

If you believe this is something you students may be interested please contact Meg Sprague at SUCCESS@osumc.edu.

Tax Information for Fellows

The government considers stipends taxable income, so graduate students are most likely be required to pay local, state, and federal taxes on their stipends. Students will receive a courtesy letter from the university that identifies the stipend amount they received in 2013. For information on federal taxes, visit http://www.irs.gov. For Columbus city tax information, visit http://www.columbustax.net/. Campus resources like Scarlet and Gray Financial are also available.

Tax Information Sessions for Pelotonia Fellows and Biomedical Sciences Graduate Student Fellows

Tax Information Sessions for Pelotonia Fellows and Biomedical Sciences Graduate Student Fellows led by Jeffrey Mason, Pelotonia Fellowship Program Director. On Wednesday, February 26th from 2-3pm OR Thursday, February 27th from 2:30-3:30pm in room 105 Biomedical Research Tower (BRT). RSVP required to jeffrey.mason@osumc.edu Learn how the IRS classifies your fellowship income, if you will get a W-2
(no, you won't) and how to make quarterly payments, among other things. We will have a question and answer session during the session, but if you think of a specific question before the talk, please e-mail it to jeffrey.mason@osumc.edu before the talk.

Other News and Events

Green Card Information Session

On Friday, February 28th, the Office of Legal Affairs (in conjunction with the Office of International Affairs) will be offering an informational session for university faculty and staff members interested in permanent residence. Reserve your seat, in 115 Biomedical Research Tower from 10 a.m. to noon on February 28, 2014, here.

Fun Fact

Beetle Overtakes Model T as World's Best-Selling Car

On this day in 1972, the 15,007,034th Volkswagen Beetle comes off the assembly line, breaking a world car production record held for more than four decades by the Ford Motor Company's iconic Model T, which was in production from 1908 and 1927. To learn more about this day in history, click here.