MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to the new academic year! We are in the midst of carrying out our new student orientations and helping students get acclimated to FIU. The first few weeks in the fall are always exciting for all of us here at UGS. This year, I am excited to share with you that we received the largest number of international applications. The Council of Graduate Schools released the results of its surveys on graduate applications from international students, and FIU has seen a 49% increase in the number of applications received, compared to 2013. This is the best we have seen thus far. We are well above the national average of 7%. However, our numbers are still small for the size of our campus and we should continue our efforts to attract more international students. Applications from India and China have increased by 51% and 24%, respectively. On the other hand, we are below national averages for Brazil and Mexico where we could step up our recruitment efforts. UGS will continue its efforts to make recruitment enhancements at the master’s level, but doctoral student recruitment is best done by individual units and/or faculty members. Recruitment enhancement funds provided by UGS could be used to target the individual needs of programs.

Thank you,

[signature]

NEWS

UGS Associate Dean Receives Prestigious Award

Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter, Associate Dean, received the National Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities (GEM) University Representative of the Year Award for her commitment to the GEM mission. Thanks to Dr. Montas’ leadership, GEM applications from FIU increased by 100 percent, and FIU became the first in the state of Florida to host a (GEM) GRAD Lab, which attracted dozens of young minority students from the South Florida region who were encouraged to consider the STEM fields for their graduate education. A second GEM GRAD Lab will be hosted at FIU’s MMC campus on October 18, 2014.

Founded in 1976, the mission of The National GEM Consortium is to enhance the value of the nation’s human capital by increasing the participation of underrepresented groups (African Americans, American Indians, and Hispanic Americans) at the master’s and doctoral levels in engineering and science. To learn more about GEM and GEM fellowships, please go to: https://www.gemfellowship.org/gem-fellowship

2014-2015 Recruitment Enhancement Funds

UGS announces its 2014-2015 initiative to assist doctoral programs to recruit highly qualified Ph.D. students. UGS will make recruiting money available for each academic unit with a doctoral program. The deadline to apply for these funds is

GRADUATE EVENTS

Week of Welcome (WoW) Graduate Student Social
Thursday, August 28, 2014
4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
Chili’s Too Patio - MMC Campus
For more WoW events, visit: http://campuslife.fiu.edu/wow/

Resume Writing/Interviewing Skills
September 8, 2014, 11:00 am
MMC Campus - GC 241

Library Refresher
September 9, 2014, 3:00 pm
MMC Campus – GL 280

Job Search Strategies for International Students
September 10, 2014, 2:00 pm
BBC Campus – HM 211

For more information about our Professional Development Programs, please go to: http://gradschool.fiu.edu/current-students-professional-development.shtml

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Last day for Spring 2015 Admitted Transfer International Students and International Students Living Abroad to Submit all Supporting Academic Credentials, Test Scores and Declaration and Certification of Finances Monday, September 1st, 2014
Last day to Submit GA Employment Agreement Forms Thursday, September 4, 2014
Last Day for Graduate Assistants to Submit Alternative Insurance Forms Tuesday, September 16, 2014
Last day to submit online Graduation Application for Fall 2014 Friday, September 19, 2014
Deadline to Submit Spring 2015 DEA and DYF Fellowship Applications
October 1st, 2014. More information can be found at http://gradschool.fiu.edu/recruitment-resources.shtml

2014-2015 Colloquium Awards

The University Graduate School (UGS) is pleased to announce its 2014-2015 initiative to assist doctoral programs in planning their colloquium or seminar series. UGS will make colloquium enhancement funds available for each academic unit with a doctoral program. The deadline to apply is October 1st, 2014. Applications must be submitted to mehernan@fiu.edu. If you are interested in applying or have any additional questions, please contact Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter at smontash@fiu.edu or Magnolia Hernandez at mehernan@fiu.edu.

Save the Date: Fall 2014 AGILE Lecture

The UGS is proud to welcome guest speaker Dr. Genevieve Bell, VP and Intel Fellow and director of User Experience Research with Intel. An accomplished anthropologist and researcher, Dr. Bell leads a team of social scientists, interaction designers, human factors engineers and computer scientists focused on people’s needs and desires to help shape new Intel products and technologies. Dr. Bell’s lecture will take place on Wednesday, November 5, at 4:00 pm in the MARC Pavilion. For more information and to RSVP for this event please go to http://gradschool.fiu.edu/agile under Lecture Series or contact Magnolia Hernandez at mehernan@fiu.edu.

UGS Welcomes New Graduate Fellows

McKnight Fellows
Haydee Borrero- Geosciences
Armando Falcon – Psychology
Teshuan Francis – Biomedical Engineering
John Gibson – Electrical Engineering
Alejandro Pacheco – Finance
Alan McKenzie - Chemistry

McNair Fellows
Vanessa Quiroz-Industrial and Organizational Psychology
Kao Yang-Material Science Engineering
Brionna Powell-Epidemiology
Tyler Wieland-Geosciences

Presidential Fellows
Nicolas Beckman – International Relations
Jonathan Flickinger – Biology
Ankush Mohekar – Business
Mehmaz Mojtabavi – Material Science Engineering
Tiyash Parira – Biomedical Engineering
Geri Satin – Psychology
Mary Weiss – Chemistry
Tanja Zerulla – Biology

Friday, October 10, 2014
D-5/M-3 Deadline for Fall 2014 Graduation (due three weeks before defense) Friday, October 24, 2014
Deadline to Defend Thesis or Dissertations for Fall Graduation Friday, November 14, 2014
Final ETD Approval Form Deadline Friday, December 5, 2014

The current and previous issues of the UGS Faculty e-Newsletter are available at http://gradschool.fiu.edu/faculty-staff-newsletter.shtml. If you have any questions or comments, please email Magnolia Hernández at mehernan@fiu.edu.