

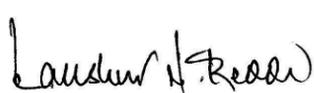
# e-newsletter

## Message From the Dean

A necessary ingredient of top quality graduate education is the professional development of graduate students while they pursue research and graduate coursework. In the last analysis, our success and reputation will come from how well our graduate students are prepared for their post-graduation careers. Communication through speaking and writing, skills to participate in interdisciplinary teams, effective teaching skills for those who aspire to become professors and strengthen their credentials, are the kind of opportunities, which graduate student surveys have repeatedly highlighted the need for.

UGS is committed to complementing the efforts of individual academic units to provide graduate students with these skills. A secondary motive in doing this is to bring about a sense of collective belonging to the graduate student community at FIU and to enhance graduate student retention rates. We will provide a gateway for graduate students to such resources as Center for Excellence in Writing, Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Career Services, etc. In the coming weeks, we will team up with the various centers/units on campus and bring some structure, periodicity, and visibility to these offerings.

Thank you.



## News

### Carnegie Doctoral Program Reviews – An Update

UGS is currently modifying the review processes to improve sustainability and effectiveness. UGS will provide historical data on the admissions, enrollment, student support, and degree productivity for each program annually. The review will continue to include a strong emphasis on improving graduate student experiences and program development. Detailed reviews involving an external reviewer will be carried out cyclically. Our goal is to provide essential information and support to the units for the growth and development of their programs. More details later.

### Doctoral Student Annual Evaluation

The annual doctoral student evaluation form is being modified based on feedback from the students, faculty and administration. The revised form will include a number of items provided by the student (i.e., full-time, part-time, dates of entry, dates of approved committee, candidacy, and anticipated graduation) and information on scholarship and professional development, including papers and presentations. The revisions are designed to enhance student experiences and academic progress, while providing critical information for the committee to make a constructive evaluation and provide recommendations for the successful path to degree completion and job placement.

### Center for Excellence in Writing

The Center for Excellence in Writing offers writing support for graduate students in all programs and at both campuses at FIU. The CEW has consultants who will work with graduate students on papers for class, research reports, documents for publication, sections of grant proposals, personal statements, and theses and dissertations. Graduate consultants are located in Green Library 124 at MMC, at the Hubert Library (ground floor) at BBC, and at the School of Engineering. Please visit the [CEW website](#) for information on the writing workshops and other services provided by the CEW.

### UGS Now Accepting Nominations for Spring 2012 Fellowships

Nominations for the Spring 2012 Doctoral Evidence Acquisition (DEA) Fellowships and Dissertation Year Fellowships (DYF) are due on **Tuesday, October 4, 2011**. For more information visit the [Fellowships](#) section on the UGS website or contact Betty Sigler ([bsigler@fiu.edu](mailto:bsigler@fiu.edu)).

### 2012 McKnight Doctoral Fellowship

The Florida Education Fund's McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program is designed to address the under-representation of African American and Hispanic faculty at colleges and universities in Florida by increasing the pool of candidates qualified with Ph.D. degrees to teach at the college and university levels. It is a great funding opportunity for talented undergraduate seniors and master's degree students who plan to pursue a Ph.D. This five year fellowship includes a \$12,500 stipend plus a \$10,000 UGS enhancement per year for the first three years, followed by a graduate assistantship for years 4 and 5. Recipients also receive a tuition waiver and health insurance. Any questions regarding the application process can be directed to Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter ([smontash@fiu.edu](mailto:smontash@fiu.edu)). Students apply online at [www.fefonline.org/mdfapply](http://www.fefonline.org/mdfapply) and all application materials must be submitted/postmarked no later than **January 15, 2012**. Applicants must be admitted to their academic program before the annual selection meeting in early March.

### Revised Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Information Session

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is undergoing a major revision beginning August 2011. This revision involves significant changes to the exam material as well as the scoring. UGS will be hosting an information session on Thursday, October 20th at 3:30 in RBD (Rafael Diaz Balart Building) room # 1100. More information on the changes to the GRE can be found on the [ETS website](#) or during an [ETS webinar](#). (Refreshments will be served during the event.)

### 2011 Graduate Open House

UGS is hosting its Graduate Open House on Saturday, October 29th from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the Graham Center Ballrooms. The Open House is considered one of FIU's major recruitment events at the graduate level and participation of every graduate program is essential to its success. The event will begin at 9:30 am with presentations on admissions, financial aid and student life. An Academic/Resource fair will follow from 10:45 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. where students will have the opportunity to meet with representatives of the various programs and student support services. To reserve a table for your program/office, please click [here](#) to fill out the RSVP form. The RSVP deadline has been extended to Monday, October 17th, 2011. Questions can be directed to Ana Moreyra Rosado at 7-1304 or [arosado@fiu.edu](mailto:arosado@fiu.edu).

## Graduate Events

### Revised GRE Information Session

Thursday, October 20, 2011  
3:30 p.m.  
RBD 1100, MMC

### Graduate Open House

Saturday, October 29, 2011  
10:00 a.m.—Noon  
GC Ballrooms, MMC

## Important Deadlines

**Deadline to submit DYF and DEA fellowship applications -**  
October 4, 2011

**Deadline to submit McKnight Doctoral application materials -**  
January 15, 2012

**Deadline to submit UGS McNair Graduate Fellowship applications -**  
March 1, 2012

## Professional Development Opportunities for Graduate Students

### **TA Fundamentals -**

#### **Grading with Rubrics**

Wednesday, October 5, 2011  
9:00 a.m.  
Thursday, October 6, 2011  
3:30 p.m.  
Friday, October 7, 2011  
11:30 a.m.  
Each session is in GL 154

### **TA Fundamentals -**

#### **Active Learning in Lectures**

Wednesday, October 12, 2011  
9:00 a.m.  
Thursday, October 13, 2011  
3:30 p.m.  
Friday, October 14, 2011  
11:30 a.m.  
Each session is in GL 154

### **TA Fundamentals - Best Practices:**

#### **Using Writing for Learning**

Wednesday, October 12, 2011  
2:00 p.m.  
GL 154

### **TA Fundamentals - Best Practices:**

#### **Teaching Online**

Tuesday, October 18, 2011  
2:00 p.m.  
GL 154

### **TA Fundamentals - Best Practices:**

#### **Student Writing in the Sciences**

Wednesday, October 19, 2011  
2:00 p.m.  
GL 154

(For further details regarding the TA Fundamentals Workshops or TA Certification, please visit the [CAT website](#).)

### **Graduate Student CV Writing**

#### **Workshop**

Thursday, October 13, 2011  
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
GC 316

