**Message from the Dean**

Welcome to the New Academic Year! Students from around the world have completed a graduate school orientation, and they would appreciate your support as they navigate a new campus and a new chapter in their lives.

For international students, results are mixed in terms of final numbers for Fall 2013 applications and admission offers. Overall, we have seen a 1% decline in the total number of graduate applications from non-US citizens compared with Fall 2012; however, our admission offers to this group increased by 7%. China and India reversed their roles from previous years, as applications from Chinese students decreased by 18% and those from Indian students increased by 20%. Even so, admission offers to both of these groups increased by 3%. Applications from the Middle East decreased by 17% and admission offers to students from that region also decreased 8%.

According to the Council of Graduate Schools, US institutions have seen an overall growth of 2% in the number of applications from non-US citizens, a growth rate much lower than in previous years. As for admission offers, they increased at a steady rate of 9% during the past three years. Reversal of roles between India and China is seen in national numbers as well.

While FIU remains a strong draw for international students, it has room to improve its application pool from non-US citizens. This new year provides an opportunity to attract more and better applicants from across the globe.

Thank you,

**News**

**FIU GEM GRAD Lab Day**

UGS is excited to host a GEM GRAD Lab on Saturday, September 28, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This free symposium, offered by FIU in partnership with the National Consortium for Graduate Degree for Minorities in Engineering and Science, welcomes FIU and non-FIU students to receive information on the importance of graduate school and how to obtain financial support for graduate studies through such programs as the GEM Fellowship. Presenters at the event will range from current graduate students to university faculty and senior administrators. They are selected from diverse communities and disciplines to present on the following topics:

- "Why Graduate School"
- "How to Prepare for Graduate School"
- "Understanding the GEM Fellowship"
- "Voices From the Field: Real Life Research and Internship Experiences"

Focusing on the global importance of research and innovation, life-long career benefits, and real world role models, the symposium will enable students to envision their future as leaders in technology, to successfully apply for a GEM fellowship, and to gain entry into a graduate program.

Please encourage your undergraduate and master's students to participate in this event. More information and registration details can be found online at: <http://gem.gemfellowship.org/events/ViewEvent.aspx?contextID=50005>

**Redirect Questions for External Fellowships and External Funding**

Dr. Lidia Kos (<kos@fiu.edu>) will be handling inquiries related to external fellowships and incentives to faculty (tuition waivers and research awards), due to the departure of Arie Spirgel.

**New Associate Director of Academic Support Services**

The University Graduate School welcomes Magnolia Hernandez as the new Associate Director of Academic Support Services. Prior to joining the UGS, Magnolia served as Director of the Office of Study Abroad at FIU. As Associate Director, Magnolia will be working closely with the rest of the UGS team on matters that are shared with the UGS community of faculty, students, and program directors, UGS special events and workshops, the FIU/UM student exchange program, and special projects as assigned.

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**Graduate Events**

**Week of Welcome (WoW) Graduate Student Social**

Thursday, August 29, 2013 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. 
Chili’s Too Patio - MMC Campus

For more WoW events, visit: <http://campuslife.fiu.edu/woff/>

**Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Workshop**

Wednesday, September 4, 2013 12:00—1:00 p.m. 
PC 416

Copyright, Fair Use, & Publishing Workshop Tuesday, September 10, 2013 12:00—1:00 p.m. 
RB 170

For more information, visit: <http://libguides.fiu.edu/etd>

**Important Deadlines**

**Last day to Submit GA Employment Agreement Forms**

Friday, August 30, 2013

**Last Day for Graduate Assistants to Submit Alternative Insurance Forms**

Saturday, August 31, 2013

For more information regarding Graduate Assistantships, visit: <http://gradschool.fiu.edu/current-students/grad-assistants.shtml>

**Cancellation of Incomplete Applications and Revocation for No-Show Students for Fall 2013**

Friday, September 13, 2013

For more Graduate Admissions deadlines, visit: <http://gradschool.fiu.edu/documents/Grad_Admissions_Deadlines.pdf>

**Last Day to Apply for DEA and DVF Fellowships**

Friday, October 4, 2013

For more information regarding Fellowships, visit: <http://gradschool.fiu.edu/fellowships.shtml>

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The current and previous issues of the UGS Faculty e-Newsletter are available as a PDF at <http://gradschool.fiu.edu/faculty-staff-newsletter.shtml>.

If you have any questions or comments, please email Albert Hoyt at ahoytiii@fiu.edu.