

Graduate Posts

An electronic newsletter from UNMC Graduate Studies

Fall 2015

A message from the Dean

Fall is bringing all kinds of important changes to Graduate Studies programs, which I believe hold great promise for further improving the already excellent programs we offer.



A new Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Basic Sciences was approved, which reorganizes six current basic graduate programs under one admissions and standards umbrella. This will enable our students to have more flexibility and broader experiences in their first year of training and the faculty to be more competitive for federal institutional training grants, among several benefits. Great kudos to all the interdisciplinary committee members led by Karen Gould, Ph.D., and Dan Monaghan, Ph.D., the Graduate Studies and Student Affairs staff, GSA student leadership, the basic science Department Chairs, Ken Cowan, M.D., Ph.D., College of Medicine Dean Brad Britigan, M.D., and Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., who all worked diligently and contributed immensely to making this transformation a reality.

We are introducing a new online CAS (common admissions system) for our incoming students that will streamline the process and make it easier for faculty to follow the progress of prospects.

In addition, we have now made it easier as a campus for our alumni to stay more actively engaged with us as we eliminate alumni dues just as we are entering the second year of our Graduate Studies alumni chapter.

Our current students are getting the opportunity to improve their communications and financial literacy, among other skills, through our new Transferable Skills program. These programs will not only tremendously increase the marketability of our students after their training, but will also directly impact the quality of their contributions to their advisors' research programs while they are being trained at UNMC.

You will learn more about all these changes and more in this edition of Graduate Posts. I hope you will find these stories inspiring as we continue on our journey to making UNMC among the very best places for Graduate Students to train in the country.

- H. Dele Davies, M.D.
Dean of Graduate Studies

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First transferable skills workshop highlights writing



G. Travis Adams, Ph.D., director of the UNO Writing Center

G. Travis Adams, Ph.D., assistant professor of English at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and director of the UNO Writing Center, spoke at UNMC on "Approaching Big Writing Projects," the first in the Transferable Skills Workshop Series. For more information on Dr. Adams' entertaining and informative presentation, [click here](#).

Interdisciplinary graduate program approved



This month, the UNMC Board of Regents approved the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences (IGPBS), a new umbrella Ph.D. and training program that will reorganize six current UNMC basic science Ph.D.-granting programs.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

Calendar

Oct. 19: 2 to 3 p.m., DRC Auditorium -- Panel discussion - "[Leaving the Bench Behind](#)"

Oct. 20: 2 to 3 p.m., DRC Auditorium: Adam Ruben - "[Surviving Your Stupid, Stupid Decision to Go to Grad School](#)"

Oct. 21: 10:30 a.m. to noon, DRC 1006 -- "Principles of Effective Writing for Grants and Manuscripts"

Oct. 30: [2015 Graduate Student and Postdoc Workshop](#) - Paula Chambers, Ph.D., "Life After Grad School," at Innovation campus in Lincoln

October through December: [UNO-Wells Fargo Bank Financial Literacy seminars](#). Click on link for schedule info. Open to UNO and UNMC students.

Dec. 17: [Graduate Student Convocation Ceremony](#)

Dec. 18: [UNMC Commencement Ceremony](#) (Omaha)

A new era of alumni engagement



UNMC Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., talks with Dave Goldner, M.D.

Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold talks, M.D., with Dave Goldner, M.D., chair of the education committee of the UNMC College of Medicine Alumni Board, about the new Era of Engagement taking place within the Alumni Association.

To see the video, [click here](#).

A 2015 Graduate Studies matriculation album



New graduate student Ahmed Wafi and one of his supporters attended the 2015 UNMC Graduate Studies Matriculation Ceremony in May. Click [here](#) for more photos from the event.

Graduate Studies Alumni Chapter

The UNMC Graduate Studies Alumni Chapter is open to UNMC alumni who earned degrees from the UNMC Graduate Studies Program of the University of Nebraska Graduate College. There are no dues or membership fees to join.

For information on the program, [click here](#).

Contact Us

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Learn more about [UNMC Graduate Studies](#).

Catching up with: Srustidhar Das, Ph.D.



From left, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dele Davies, M.D., Srustidhar Das, Ph.D., and Surinda Batra, Ph.D.

In May, Srustidhar Das, Ph.D., was the recipient of the 2015 Thomas Jefferson Ingenuity Award. We caught up to Dr. Das, who is now a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Eduardo Villablanca at the Translational Immunology Unit at the Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden, to talk to him about his post-UNMC career.

For more, [click here.](#)

Cancer Biology Training Program renewed at UNMC



Jennifer Black, Ph.D.

UNMC has been awarded a renewal of the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Biology Training Program Grant -- an award to support the nation's best graduate students in the field of cancer research. The five-year, \$1.2 million grant will support six graduate students.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

Graduate Studies Mentoring Program needs you!

It's not easy to find a career mentor who can provide insight and guidance about the challenges that lie ahead. The Graduate Studies Mentoring Program matches students with alumni or other professionals who share the same career interests.

The Graduate Studies Mentoring Program is currently seeking alumni and faculty to serve as mentors to our students. For information on joining the program, [click here.](#)

Alumni news: Share your accomplishments!

Graduate Posts would like to feature news from alumni: new positions, exciting promotions, life events -- all are welcome.

Have news to share? Let us know!

Please email your news items (and photos, if available) to **Graduate Posts** with the subject line "Graduate Studies Alumni News."

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