

# Graduate Posts

An electronic newsletter from UNMC Graduate Studies

Fall 2016

## A message from the dean

The 2016 - 2017 academic year is well underway, and it's already shaping up to be an excellent year. From matriculation to the launch of new programs, so much has happened and it is only October.

Our new Purdue Pharma Scholars Award Program fosters graduate training in pharmaceutical sciences and neurosciences, offering students funding and opportunities to interact with Purdue Pharma researchers.

We are also continuing to explore further ways to engage with our alumni and make sure they stay connected to the UNMC community.

In addition, we are beginning a new partnership with Bio Nebraska, an association of major life science biotechnology companies that advocates for its members to foster the growth of life sciences within Nebraska. As our relationship evolves, we will have speakers, facility tours, and other communication with member companies of BioNebraska, and hope that this will evolve to real opportunities for our students.

I hope you find this issue of Graduate Posts inspiring as we continue to make UNMC among the best places for graduate students to train in the country.

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



Daniel Monaghan, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and experimental neuroscience, and Karen Gould, Ph.D., associate professor and vice chair for graduate education, genetics, cell biology and anatomy

## First year of IGPBS shows strength of new program

The first class has matriculated to the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences (IGPBS). Study and experience for Ph.D. students are becoming more and more interdisciplinary. An increased number of faculty are taking on greater roles. [Click here to read more.](#)

## Ph.D. program spotlight: Environmental Health, Occupation Health & Toxicology

Chandran Achutan, Ph.D., C.I.H., director of the graduate program of Environmental Health, Occupational Health & Toxicology, shares insights on the Ph.D. program.

"Our researchers do a lot of lab-based, bench-based research, but we also do a lot of field research," Dr. Achutan said. "Students work hands-on with faculty right from day one. We give them a lot of practical experience, whether its lab-based research or going out into the field. To read more, [click here](#).



Chandran Achutan, Ph.D.,  
C.I.H.



Travis Adams, Ph.D.

## This week's Lunch & Learn focuses on writing

The next Professional Development Lunch & Learn event, hosted by Graduate Studies, will be held Thursday, Oct. 20, from noon until 1 p.m. in the Eppley Science Hall Amphitheater, Room 3010.

The presentation will be on "Maximizing Writing, Minimizing Stress." Travis Adams, Ph.D., assistant professor of English at UNO and the director of the UNO Writing Center and the Writing Center @ UNMC, will lead the presentation.

The Lunch & Learn events, which focus on careers and professional skills development, are open to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. A lunch will be available at 11:45 a.m. for the first 50 attendees.

Professional Development Lunch & Learn events are held the third Thursday of each month during the fall & spring semesters.

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Ph.D. candidates and organizers of UNMC's first dissertation boot camp.

## **UNMC's first dissertation boot camp a success**

UNMC held its first dissertation boot camp in August, and both organizers and participants called it a success. "It went very well," said Pamela Carmines, Ph.D., assistant dean for graduate studies.

[Click here to read more.](#)

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Paul Fey, Ph.D. (center, back row) and members of his lab on one of their monthly hikes.

## **Dr. Fey takes his own path to excellence in mentoring**

Paul Fey, Ph.D., was named Distinguished Graduate Student Mentor by the Graduate Student Association (GSA). Dr. Fey was honored at this past spring's UNMC Graduate Studies Convocation. [Click here to read more.](#)

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## Matriculation ceremony welcomes graduate students

On Aug. 17, Graduate Studies held a matriculation ceremony to welcome new graduate students to UNMC. [Click here to see a photo album of the event.](#)

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## Purdue Pharma Scholar applications end Tuesday

Applications close Tuesday for the Purdue Pharma Scholars Award. The award's goal is to foster graduate training in pharmaceutical sciences and neurosciences, and to foster collaborations between UNMC and Purdue Pharma. [For more information, click here.](#)

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## Contact Graduate Studies

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