

# Graduate Posts

Updates from UNMC Graduate Studies | Fall 2020

## A message from the dean

Welcome to the latest issue of Graduate Posts.

I want to thank our faculty, staff and students for their diligence and commitment to ongoing safety practices in response to the continued threat of COVID-19. While fall 2020 has presented us with numerous challenges, we continue to maintain high levels of excellence and innovation in our academic journey. From a virtual matriculation ceremony to regular town halls, we are finding new ways to grow together as a community. Additionally, our students are achieving new heights of success for their work outside of class.

It is also important to highlight the results of a survey regarding remote learning during the COVID-19 quarantine. Our students reported little or no decline in educational quality, which is a true testament to the hard work of our faculty. Further, students were able to form a more personal connection with their faculty than they had previously.

I hope you enjoy learning about these stories and more in this issue of Graduate Posts.

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



Kay Mereish, PhD

## Dr. Mereish, UNMC alum, honored by Homeland Security

Kay Mereish, PhD, received the Department of Homeland Security Distinguished Service Medal for her transformational public service. [Read more. \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://www.unmc.edu/newsroom/2020/11/17/kay-mereish-phd-honored-by-homeland-security/)



Kendra Schmid, Ph.D.

## Study explores effects of remote learning during COVID-19

The team led by Kendra Schmid, PhD, assistant dean of graduate studies, drilled down even further to look at grad-school students and faculty. [Read more. \[r20.rs6.net\]](#)

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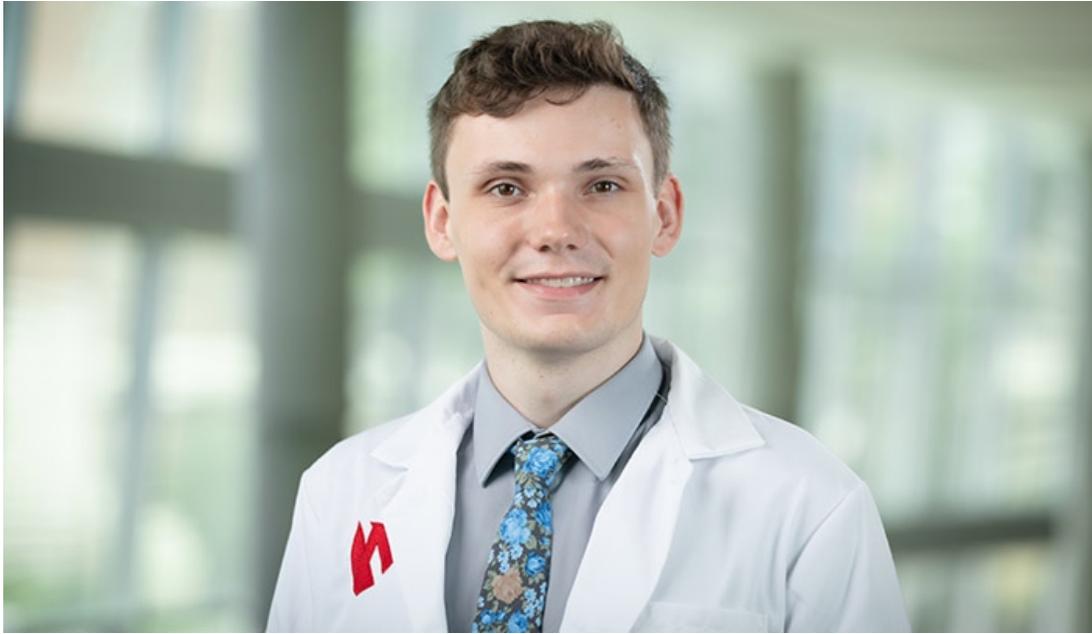


Adam Case, Ph.D.

## Graduate studies holds masked, socially distant matriculation

Event opened with moment of silence to honor the lives lost to the pandemic. [Read more. \[r20.rs6.net\]](#)

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Tyler Kambis

## UNMC student shines in research competition

UNMC's Tyler Kambis took second place in Research!America's national "flash talks" competition.

The competition took place during Research!America's National Health Research Forum in September.

Kambis is a graduate research assistant in the UNMC Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Anatomy and a PhD candidate in the lab of Paras Mishra, PhD, associate professor in the UNMC Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology. [Read more \[r20.rs6.net\]](#).

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## Graduate Studies coming events

Upcoming events:

- Nov. 4: Graduate Studies Town Hall
  - Nov. 19: Lunch and learn: "Wellness in the Time of COVID."
  - Dec. 17: Graduate Studies winter convocation.
  - Jan. 5-8: [Dissertation Boot Camp \[r20.rs6.net\]](#).
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## Contact Graduate Studies

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[Learn more about UNMC Graduate Studies. \[r20.rs6.net\]](#)