

Graduate Posts

An electronic newsletter from UNMC Graduate Studies

Spring 2017

A message from the dean

Welcome to the latest issue of Graduate Posts.

Graduate Studies has many important activities planned or ongoing for 2017, including the launch of our new Purdue Pharma Scholars Award Program. This program provides funding for UNMC graduate students conducting research in neuroscience, particularly pain research. The annual scholarships are just one aspect of a larger, ongoing partnership between UNMC and Purdue Pharma L.P. and an overall vision of developing partnerships with life-science companies that will provide opportunities to expose our students to broad career pathways.



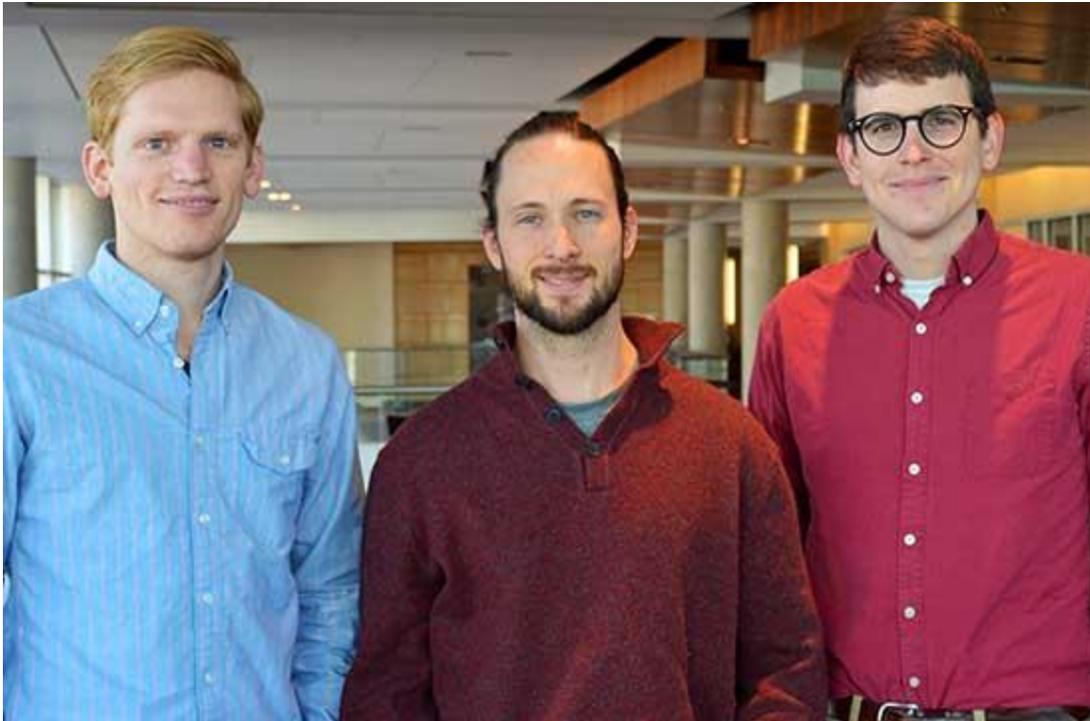
Three excellent graduate students, profiled in this Graduate Posts, were chosen as the inaugural Purdue Pharma Scholars, receiving a stipend of \$26,500 for the year, along with a \$5,000 scholarship award. In addition, they have the opportunity to receive another \$5,000 if they successfully compete for a national award such as the NIH F31 Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award or a society award such as the American Heart Association Predoctoral Fellowship Award.

We also continue to build upon our career development programs and offer a wide variety of activities. Up to 75 students attend each workshop, and based on feedback, we plan to expand the scope of topics covered.

Additionally, we are rolling out a new Service-Learning/Interprofessional Education Badge Program. With this program, graduate students obtain "badges" for time spent in important activities that advance their careers outside of the lab or classroom.

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

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



From left, Justin Grassmeyer, Lee Sleightholm and Jamie Gehringer

Three UNMC students named Purdue Pharma Scholars

UNMC Graduate Studies has announced its first cohort of Purdue Pharma Scholars, a program that provides funding for UNMC graduate students conducting research in neuroscience, pharmaceutical science or pain research. The annual scholarships are just one aspect of a larger, ongoing partnership between UNMC and Purdue Pharma L.P. [For more information, click here.](#)



From left, Pamela Carmines, Ph.D., and Tyler Martin, M.D.

Fireside chats explore science careers beyond academia

UNMC Graduate Studies has instituted a new series, called "Fireside Chats," which features speakers who have used their background in science to become successful in the private sector. To read full story, [click here.](#)



Dele Davies, M.D., vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean of graduate studies, congratulates Tyler Scherr, Ph.D., at the Winter Honors Convocation.

Graduates in spotlight at Winter Honors Convocation

UNMC Graduate Studies held a Winter Honors Convocation in December for its August and December 2016 Ph.D. and M.S. degree recipients. [Click here to see a photo album of the event.](#)



Graduate Student Association members include, from left, Joel Frandsen (Batman), Beth Clymer (Supergirl), Lee Sleightholm (Spider-Man), Krysten Vance (Supergirl) and Fany Iseka (Wonder Woman).

Graduate Student Association's 'super' surprise for patients

In collaboration with child life specialists at Nebraska Medicine, members of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) dressed as superheroes and visited young patients at Nebraska Medicine for a day of fun and crafts. [Click here to read more.](#)



Jim Turpen, Ph.D., as Ankor the clown

Dr. Turpen reaches a career and clowning crossroads

UNMC's Jim Turpen, Ph.D., executive associate dean for graduate studies, is planning for changes in both his academic and Shrine Circus careers. [To read the full story, click here.](#)



From left. Laura Bilek, Ph.D., and Pamela Carmines, Ph.D., at the February event.

Professional development series is growing in popularity

Attendance at the UNMC Graduate Studies' Professional Development Lunch and Learn series has exploded in its second year. For more information, [click here.](#)

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