Preparing Present: Day and Future Global Leaders: One Scholar at a Time
Dear University Community:

The Graduate School is proud to send you our latest edition of the “Graduate School Times.” In this newsletter you will find information about our newest staff member, Gary Oliver, who will be instrumental in fostering Graduate Student Success through his role as Assistant Director for Graduate Student Services. We are excited he is here and he will be meeting with all of you soon. You will also find information from several of our units and we are very proud to introduce our Doctoral Student Leadership Institute and our first class of 13 Fellows. Finally, we are very excited about our new funding from the Council of Graduate Schools and the National Science Foundation that focuses on the success of STEM minority doctoral students.

We hope your semester has proceeded well and you find our newsletter helpful and informative. I wish to thank all of you for your continued support of the Graduate School and graduate education at the University of South Florida.

Best wishes,
Dean Karen Liller
USF Graduate School
The Graduate School News

Welcome
Gary Oliver, Assistant Director for Graduate Student Services

Gary D. Oliver joined the Graduate School staff on March 12, 2012, as the new Assistant Director for Graduate Student Services. He received his BA degree from Savannah State University in 1992, M.Ed. and Ed.S. degrees from Georgia Southern University in 2008 and 2010 respectively. He has over 15 years of experience in higher education and student affairs. He most recently served as the Director for Student Life at Savannah State University.

He is responsible for developing, organizing and delivering programs to enhance and support Graduate School initiatives that foster graduate student success and career development. Gary oversees orientation, commencements, workshops, Graduate Student Appreciation Week, and other activities, such as community service projects, and social and cultural events for graduate students.

Please feel free to stop by the Graduate School office to discuss any ideas, concerns or just to say hello.

Graduate School Research

The Graduate School has received several grants in the past year to study variables related to the overall success of graduate students. We are proud to announce our latest funding from the Council of Graduate Schools and the National Science Foundation. This grant will focus on STEM minority doctoral students’ attrition and completion. The Graduate School at USF along with 20 other universities will determine the answers to several major research questions related to those success variables for STEM minority doctoral students over time.

Leadership Institute

The University of South Florida Graduate School is proud to offer the Doctoral Student Leadership Institute. This two-year institute is open to doctoral students only and includes completion of a one-semester leadership course, at least two semesters of shadowing effective leaders, development and implementation of a leadership plan, participation in a leadership journal club, participation in leadership conferences/retreats and forums, workshop participation, and in Year Two, serving as mentors to the new class of Leadership Institute Fellows. The Dean and Associate Dean of the Graduate School lead the Institute and meet with the Fellows to determine progress. Participation in the Institute requires at least 6-10 hours per week, depending on the activities.
**Academics**

**Accelerated Degree Programs**

The Graduate School and Undergraduate Studies, working with both Graduate and Undergraduate Councils, have recently approved revised guidelines for Accelerated Programs. This allows academically qualified students to complete an undergraduate Bachelor’s degree and a graduate degree (typically master’s degree) on an accelerated timeline, graduating sooner than in traditional programs.

As soon as the student completes the undergraduate degree requirements, the student is converted to graduate status, where the remaining graduate requirements are fulfilled. Students accepted into these programs have the opportunity to complete two degrees in a shorter time frame, with a potential cost savings, depending on the programs.

It is important to note potential financial aid implications at the time of conversion to graduate status, so advising is critical. More information about this initiative may be found online at the Accelerated Programs Information Center: [http://www.grad.usf.edu/accelerated.php](http://www.grad.usf.edu/accelerated.php)

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**Graduate Student Success**

**Research One 2012 Graduate Student Research Symposium**

Thursday, April 5, 2012, marks the fourth annual Graduate Student Research Symposium. The event will be held in the Interdisciplinary Research Building (IDRB) and will provide a venue for graduate students in all disciplines to present their current research and obtain feedback from faculty and peers. The students will present their research in poster and oral presentations.

**Scholars of Excellence**

Friday, April 20th marks the Graduate School sponsored ‘Scholars of Excellence’ program. Nearly 100 graduate students representing some of USF’s most prestigious fellowships will be honored at the event. This invitation-only event is the third annual program and the first to be held in the Interdisciplinary Research Building on the Tampa campus.

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**Post-Doctoral Affairs**

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) is pleased to be hosting the first Provost’s Postdoctoral Initiative Symposium on April 13, 2012. There will be several presentations on the subject of risk including topics such as: nuclear technology, sinkhole insurance in Florida, and changing concept of the home.

OPA was able to award 11 travel grants this year to postdoctoral scholars in a range of disciplines including: geology, pathology, chemistry and anthropology. These postdoctoral scholars will use these awards to travel to domestic and international conferences in their fields.

The Postdoctoral Scholars Association (PSA) has recently held its first election and elected officers for 2012. Assistant Director Hoyer and the new president of the PSA, Dr. Ravi Pathak attended the National Postdoctoral Association conference in San Francisco to learn from postdoctoral scholar communities at other universities and to share our successes and challenges. We are also proud that our postdoctoral community is growing with departments adding postdoctoral scholars every year.
GRADUATE SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS & MEETING SCHEDULE

GRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS

ETD & Graduation Deadlines — Spring
(www.grad.usf.edu/ETD-deadlines.asp)
Final Defended Dissertation Submission* Apr 13
Commencement – USF Sun Dome May 5

*note these are Grad School deadlines

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS
(www.grad.usf.edu/workshops.asp)

Grant Writing Workshop Apr 9
Writing for Publication Workshop Apr 18
Tips and Advice from the Experts: Getting Your Challenge Grant Funded TBA

POSTDOCTORAL WORKSHOPS
(www.grad.usf.edu/postdocworkshops.asp)

Finding Funding for Your Research Apr 11
Writing for Success: Grant Writing May 16
Demystifying the Publication Process June 13
Oral Presentation Skills July 18

USF TAMPA GRADUATE COUNCIL
1st and 3rd Mondays of each month
(www.grad.usf.edu/graduate-council.asp)

Policy (9-11 am) Full Council (1-3 pm)
Apr 16 May 7
May 21 June 4
June 18

GRADUATE PROGRAM COORDINATOR BROWN BAGS
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., TECO Room
(www.grad.usf.edu/graduate-directors.asp)

Apr 12

ENROLLMENT/GRADUATE ASSOCIATE DEANS (EGAD)
4th Wednesday of each month, 9-11 am
(www.grad.usf.edu/graduate-coordinators.asp)

Apr 25 May 23
Jun 27 July 25
Be Prepared

Be Successful

Be a Leader

For Up to Date News Please Visit Our Website at:

WWW.GRAD.USF.EDU