

Graduate Studies Update

Graduate Student Survey

This year the Graduate Council formed a Student Issues sub committee. This subcommittee met several times and decided to create and conduct a survey which included questions related to housing, financial support, and work life issues. This was sent to all graduate students in the middle of April 2007. As of now over 300 students have

returned the survey. The survey results will be analyzed this summer.

Next fall, the Graduate Council will discuss and plan appropriate strategies for the future in consultation with graduate faculty, students and the campus community.



Graduate Studies Funding

The Office of Graduate studies is pleased to receive the following funding from the Academic Initiative Oversight committee, the Apportionment committee and the UW-L Foundation.

Academic Initiative: \$20,000 to fund Research, Service and Educational Leadership (RSEL) grant program. Additional funding for RSEL grants will come from other resources.

Apportionment Committee: \$4,500 to fund the Professional Travel grants. These funds will be supplemented by the Office of Graduate Studies.

UW-L Foundation: \$800 award to the Graduate Student Organization to hold the new graduate student orientation in the fall and a variety of networking events for young professionals across the UW-L campus community during the academic year.

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL 2006-07
GRADUATE DEGREE
RECIPIENTS**

Joint Meeting of Graduate Council and Program Directors

The Graduate Council and the Graduate Program Directors warmly welcomed Chancellor Gow to their meeting held on April 6, 2007. Chancellor Gow was made aware of the need for sustained

and increased funding for the graduate programs to maintain their ability to recruit the best students.

In addition, a number of other issues

affecting UW-L graduate studies, such as repeating the grade policy and Graduate Faculty membership policy and criteria, were discussed at the meeting.

Top 3 Action Steps

Priority #1

Secure long term allocation of Academic Initiative revenue for graduate students

Priority #2

Develop consistent web presence for UW-L graduate programs

Priority #3

Develop a public relations structure for UW-L graduate studies

Note: Suggestions to improve the layout/content of this update are welcome and should be directed to:

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Spotlight on DPT, OT and PA programs

Students select to study Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Physicians Assistant programs at UW-L because of the strength and reputation of each program.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) is a 34-month program where students participate in three internships during the last three semesters. Graduates of DPT become an integral part of a health care team working in private PT offices, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and many other arenas that offer PT services. Michele Thorman is the DPT program director.

The Occupational Therapy (OT) is a 30-month long program and includes a six month full time fieldwork experi-

ence. The curriculum incorporates service-learning and problem-based learning as practical instructional methods. The OT program is also offered as a dual degree program with psychology

This year the OT students participated in two community projects. The OT club received a grant from the Wisconsin Council of Disabilities to sponsor Project Funway, an inclusive fashion show for community members with and without disabilities. OT students also mentored middle school students as they worked on their science fair projects this spring. This enhanced the quality of the projects and the OT students gained experience working with pre-teens while using their research skills. Peggy Denton is the OT program

director.

The Physician Assistant (PA) is a 24-month program consisting of a 12-month Preclinical year and a 12-month Clinical year. The program is associated with two clinical sponsors, Gunderson Lutheran and Mayo Clinic and they have nationally and internationally respected clinicians as partners in the program.

Edward J. Malone III, M.D., was named the PA program director this spring, fulfilling his life long goal of teaching clinical medicine in academic settings. The Office of University Graduate Studies offers its welcome to Ed. Malone.

10th Annual Celebration of Student Research & Creativity

The 10th Annual Celebration of Student Research and Creativity was held on Friday, March 23, 2007.

This year, the Celebration included 22 graduate student presentations of which 18 students presented during the poster session and 4 students presented their research during the oral presentation session. Oral presentations for graduate students were added for the first time. Students were given the choice of

selecting oral or poster session.

Thank you to all of those who presented and their faculty mentors for providing the guidance.

This year we added another dimension of selecting two Outstanding Research Presentation award recipients. Congratulations to Adam Burrack, Biology, and Mark Jakubek, Exercise and Sport Science as well as to their faculty

mentors: Margaret Maher and Glenn Wright, respectively. We also appreciate the commitment made by the team of judges comprised of faculty members and graduate students.

Graduate Studies is looking forward to the 2008 Celebration and it is our hope that more graduate students will take part in this wonderful opportunity to discuss their research and scholarly work.

Graduate Research and Travel Awards

The Graduate Council awarded a total of 41 Research, Service and Educational Leadership (RSEL) grants to students in the Colleges of Liberal Studies, and Science and Health in 2006-07. There were no applicants from the College of Business Administration this year. The total amount awarded this academic year is approximately \$44,400. Grants ranged from \$300 - \$1600 for a wide variety of research and scholarly projects.

In addition, the Office of Graduate Studies awarded a number of Professional Travel grants. Approximately \$7,000 has been awarded to graduate students so far in this academic year. There is one more round of these grants with a deadline of May 18, 2007.

These grant programs are partially funded through Academic Initiative and other student fees.

