



The GAP
(Graduate Advisers' Publication)
March 2011

Graduate Admissions Update

Sandra Temores-Valdez who was serving as the Graduate Admissions lead will be transitioning from Graduate Admissions lead into a new roll within Enrollment Services. A new graduate admissions lead Margarita Pina-Harlow has been hired and will work closely with Sandra during the fall admissions cycle. Margarita can be contacted at 619-594-8293 or mharlow@mail.sdsu.edu.

Admission Schedule

File Completion Deadline Information

The file completion deadline was March 1 for fall 2011. All documents postmarked by the deadline will be accepted by Graduate Admissions. Applicants should be encouraged to continue to check their portal for updated information about their admission status. Please note that Graduate Admissions will continue to work with International Students after this date if necessary.

Intent to Enroll Requirement

Graduate Admissions is now admitting students for fall 2011. Admission notifications will be emailed to students with information about the new intent to enroll requirement. To accept the offer of admission, applicants must complete the intent to enroll process on their portal by their specified deadline. If they do not complete this step, it will be assumed that they do not plan to attend SDSU.

Students will be required to submit a \$400 deposit. The deposit will be applied towards their fall registration fees. The deposit is non-refundable. Please note that the intent to enroll process is required for all main campus graduate programs. Departments can view their intents by using the Graduate Apps Report on the portal.

Applicants who are receiving financial aid may qualify to defer their deposit. Eligibility will be based on financial need and estimated family contribution. If they do qualify, the portal will allow them to submit the intent without the deposit.

Southern California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education

The Southern California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education will be held at the University of Southern California, Saturday, April 2nd, 2011. The Forum is the largest diverse minority-oriented graduate and professional school forum/fair held in the United States. Approximately 1200-1400 hand picked students with GPA's not lower than 3.0 will be in attendance. There will be over 180 major universities recruiting from across the nation. *If you are interested in reserving a table for recruitment purposes*, please contact, Dr. Anastasios Chassiakos achassk@csulb.edu

Who attends the Forum? The Forum is open to college sophomores, juniors, seniors, and master's candidates, but is designed particularly to serve the needs of first-generation, low – income, and other students from underserved populations. Attendance at the Forum is by invitation only. **Southern California UC/CSU/private universities** select their delegations of students on the basis of demonstrated promise of success in master's degree and doctoral-level work, primarily grade-point averages and faculty recommendations.

SDSU has invited qualified students to attend this forum via an email invitation. If you have students you wish to attend and/or want more information, please contact jrogers@mail.sdsu.edu

GRA Deadlines

April 4th

Final day for submission of thesis **without risk**: Your thesis will be reviewed in time to make any corrections and obtain final clearance to submit your thesis to Montezuma Publishing by the May 19th noon deadline. Thesis must be formatted and the signature page completed prior to submission.

April 5th – May 24th

Thesis will be accepted on an **at-risk** basis. By submitting your completed thesis for review to Montezuma Publishing at-risk you are not guaranteed your thesis will be reviewed in time to be submitted for Publishing by the noon deadline of May 19, 2011.

Graduate Advisors/Faculty/Coordinators

Please be advised that departments and faculty are responsible for maintaining accurate records of the thesis committee composition of students they supervise. Copies of approved *Appointment of Thesis/Project Committee* forms are disseminated to the graduate adviser and thesis chair for this specific purpose. This information can also be located in the Graduate Adviser section of the Web Portal using the student's Red ID number. The Graduate Division is not responsible for providing departments or faculty with thesis committee information for the purposes of completing Supervision Reports, tenure reviews, etc.



The **MyGAP** program continues to generate tremendous interest from thousands of prospective graduate students. While many of our graduate programs are utilizing the *personalized auto-generated response letters* to communicate with future Aztecs, we know that a significant number are **still not taking advantage** of this simple, effective, and entirely free recruitment tool. Some departments have now taken control of the back office of this system and are completely utilizing Hobson's on their own with little or no help from the graduate division.

For more information on how to maximize the potential of **MyGAP** for your program, please contact Janet Rodgers at 4-5215 or jrodgers@mail.sdsu.edu

Research Division

Student Research Symposium

The 4th annual Student Research Symposium convened on March 4th and 5th with 413 undergraduate and graduate students presenting their research in 70 oral and poster sessions. The Awards Reception and Ceremony was held on Saturday at noon with President Weber delivering the keynote speech. The ten President Awardees will represent SDSU at CSU Fresno for the California State University Student Research Competition on May 6th and 7th. For additional details, please visit the SRS website and the SRS Facebook page.

<http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~gra/grad/research/researchopps.html>

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/SDSU-Student-Research-Symposium-2011/124566104274472>

Graduate Student Travel Fund

The February cycle of the Graduate Student Travel Fund brought in 54 applications. Applications received review by a committee and fifteen students received awards totaling \$6,800. The next GSTF deadline is May 1, 2011.

21st Annual Albert W. Johnson University Research Lecture - March 11, 2011

John R. Weeks, distinguished professor of geography, is the 2011 Albert W. Johnson University Research Lecturer. Dr. Weeks will present a lecture entitled, *The Power of Pixels: Using GIScience to Understand Global Health* on March 11, 2011 at 3:00 in CAL-201. This lecture is open to the university and public.

Responsible Conduct of Research

Training in responsible and ethical research practices is an integral part of preparing academic professionals to conduct research. Both the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have requirements for training in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). Please review the SDSU RCR Plan at: <http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~gra/grad/research/rcr.html>.

Research Compliance Review Reminder

Students, faculty, or staff who plans to use humans, animals and/or bio-hazardous materials in their research must receive approval from the appropriate ethics review committee in advance of initiating work. Please contact the Division of Research Affairs with questions (dra@mail.sdsu.edu).

Montezuma Publishing/Thesis

Thesis Q&A sessions from Montezuma Publishing; Due to the overwhelming popularity of the Thesis Q&A sessions, Montezuma Publishing will continue to offer the sessions each semester. Our sessions for summer are as follows:

Tuesday, May 31st – 3 pm

Wednesday, June 2nd – 10:00 am

Friday, June 3rd – 3:00 pm

Please encourage students graduating in Summer 2011 or Fall 2011 to attend. These sessions will address deadlines, tips on formatting, the review process, and publishing requirements. Sessions will last approximately 30-45 minutes. Sessions will be held in Montezuma's office (IT 104).

Students can register for these sessions by emailing erin.clark@montezumapublishing.com with their name, department, and anticipated graduation date or by calling 619-594-7551. Space is limited.

Grad Fest will be held April 12 - 14

Commencement Information

<http://newscenter.sdsu.edu/commencement/commencement.aspx>

Follow GRA on TWITTER

<http://twitter.com/sdsugra>