



**The GAP**  
**(Graduate Advisor Publication)**  
**September 2011**



**Welcome to the Fall Semester**



Many changes have taken place in the Student Affairs office. Tom Scott has left to return to his first love, teaching. Meanwhile, the Graduate and Research Affairs office looks forward to the arrival of our new Vice President for Research and Graduate Dean, Dr. Steve Welter. Associate Dean Radmila Prislin has graciously taken on the role of Interim VPR and Graduate Dean, until Dr. Welter's arrival in mid-November.

There have been other changes in the office, as well. Joshua Hoskins, who had been with the GRA office for the past 7 years, has left to work for Warner Brothers, following his dream of becoming a script writer. In his place we have hired Mrs. Jennifer Logan, who has officially joined us as of September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Advisors**

If your department changes advisors, whether it is in the beginning, middle or end of the semester, please be sure and notify the GRA office. We will promptly send the paperwork needed to be signed and documented in order to make the change official.

**Deadlines**

September 8 - Last day for faculty to drop students from classes

September 12 - Last day to drop classes (6 p.m.)

September 14 - Last day to add classes or change grading basis (6 p.m.)

September 14 - Last day to officially withdraw from the university without a penalty fee for fall semester 2011

**September 14 - Last day to apply for Fall 2011 graduation for an advanced degree**

September 20 - Last day to submit paperwork for fall 2012 Residency

September 20 - Last day to apply for the Graduate Equity Fellowship Program

November 1 - Last day to apply for the UC Presidents Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Please be sure to advise students the deadline for dropping classes is indeed a deadline. The GRA office receives many petitions each semester for late withdrawals, the overwhelming majority of which are denied.

**Division of Student Affairs**  
**[Facebook & Twitter](#)**

The Student Affairs offices just opened our [Facebook](#) account. We already have 445 students interacting on the page regarding issues such as housing, courses, books, parking, instructors etc. Students are also creating chat groups for their particular program. This is a great venue to keep your students up to date with pertinent information. Although we have tried to notify all graduate students about the GRA [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts, we would appreciate you passing the information along as well.

**Fall 2011 New Graduate Student**  
**[On-Line Orientation](#)**

We are pleased to announce for the 3rd year, the New Graduate Student [On-line Orientation](#) is still going strong. Every fall semester, an initial welcome message and information about the orientation website is sent to all newly admitted students who submitted intent to enroll deposits. This site enables new and continuing students to obtain important information regarding various aspects of their studies throughout their academic career. Students may visit the site 24/7 at their convenience. To date over 1700 students have visited the site since the first wave of admits submitted their intent to enroll.

**Fall 2011 GA/TA New Graduate Student**  
**[On-Line Orientation](#)**

A new Graduate Student [TA/GA Orientation](#) is on-line as well. Richer in detail and scope, it pulls a multitude of needed information onto one site. Useful to students and Graduate Advisors, it provides such details as HR information, NRTW (Non-Resident Tuition Waivers), residency information, and FAQs for both TAs and GAs along with the complete TA/GA Handbook. Please be sure to inform your TA/GA students about this [online orientation](#) as it answers (almost) all the questions they may have about their assignments.

**Fall Graduation Application News!**

**Application deadline: Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**

Please note the application for fall graduation is now available on the student [“Web Portal”](#) account. Yes, we have finally gone all electronic with our application. We have taken all steps to notify students of this change via email, GRA-Facebook, GRA-Twitter and now The GAP. **The Web Portal will not allow students to apply after the September 14<sup>th</sup> deadline date.**

**[Determination of Residency](#)**

Students must act before September 20, 2011

Students who are non-residents and have received a Non-Resident Tuition Waiver (NRTW) for the next academic year need to know the following: To secure residency for Fall 2012, students must meet residency requirements before September 20, 2011 and *maintain them for a full year*. California residency for tuition purposes eligibility criteria are established by “State Law and the California Code of Regulations” and are not negotiable.

## [Registration for 799B/C](#)

The [online](#) registration for 799B/C through [Extended Studies](#) is now up and running. Students can obtain a registration "authorization code" from the GRA office at 619-594-5213 once their eligibility is verified. Obtaining paperwork from the GRA office is no longer necessary.

If students do not wish to register on-line they may do so in person at Extended Studies. Once they obtain the "authorization code" from GRA they can go directly to the Extended Studies cashiers. They will fill out a regular CES registration form and provide the authorization code at the time of registration.

## **External Degree Programs**

All departments currently offering External degrees via Extended Studies please be sure to verify all students in your graduate programs or advanced certificate programs have APPLIED to SDSU through CSU Mentor and have been admitted. *The act of taking classes through Extended Studies is not equivalent to matriculation to SDSU.* Every year there are students unable to graduate or obtain their advance certificate because of failure to apply and be accepted SDSU. Please be sure students in external degree programs fully understand the need to complete this process.

## **Graduate Equity Fellowship Program**

### **Application Deadline: September 20, 2011**

The Graduate Equity Fellowship is a California grant program administered by Graduate and Research Affairs. Award amounts range from \$500 to \$4,500 per year for up to four semesters.

### **Qualification Guidelines**

- California resident
- Enrolled **fulltime** (minimum 9 units a semester) as a classified or conditionally classified student
- Maintains a 3.00 GPA
- Economically disadvantaged – Need to show a minimum of \$1000 in financial need as determined by the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships
- Complete [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA)
- A brief essay

Applications for the Graduate Equity Fellowship are available from the Graduate and Research Office or [on-line](#). **Student will be notified of their awards by the [Scholarship Office](#) in mid-October.**

## [Graduate Student Association](#)

The Graduate Student Association is an official board of Associated Student intended to promote interaction among the university's graduate population. In the last couple years they have sponsored several events that have been well attended by our students. Their first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 7 @ 5:30 PM in Aztec Mesa Room 105. Several board offices will be elected at that meeting. If you have a mailing list for your graduate students please forward this information to them. There will be another meeting of September 14, after which meetings will be biweekly.

**The University of California**  
**President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program**  
**Call for Applications**

**Applications Deadline: November 1, 2011**

**THE PROGRAM** The University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program was established in 1984 to encourage outstanding women and minority Ph.D. recipients to pursue academic careers at the University of California. The current program offers postdoctoral research fellowships and faculty mentoring to outstanding scholars in all fields whose research, teaching, and service will contribute to the diversity and equal opportunity at the University of California. These contributions may include public service addressing the needs of our increasingly diverse society, efforts to advance equitable access to higher education, or research focusing on underserved populations or understanding inequalities related to race, gender, disability or LGBT. The program is seeking applicants with the potential to bring to their academic careers the critical perspective that comes from their non-traditional educational background or understanding of the experiences of members of groups historically underrepresented in higher education.

**AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS** Fellowships are awarded for research conducted under faculty sponsorship on any one of the University of California's ten campuses. The University awards 15-20 postdoctoral fellowships every year. The annual award provides a salary of \$40-45,000, depending on the field and level of experience. The award also includes health insurance, vision and dental benefits, 4 weeks of paid "time off" and up to \$4,000 for research-related and program travel expenses. Each award is for a 12-month period, renewable for an additional term upon demonstration of academic productivity and participation in program events.

**ELIGIBILITY** Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and must hold or receive a Ph.D. from an accredited university before the start of their fellowship.

**Ford Foundation Fellowship Program**

Starting September 1, 2011 Applications will be accepted for the 2012 Ford Diversity Fellowships Program for Achieving Excellence in College and University Teaching. For more information regarding full eligibility requirements and the online application please visit their [website](#).

- U.S. Citizen or National
- Planning a career in teaching and research at the college or university level in a research-based field of Science, social science or humanities

Awardees have expenses paid to attend one Conference of Ford Fellows.

Approximately 60 pre-doctoral, 35 dissertation, and 20 postdoctoral fellowships sponsored by the Ford Foundation and administered by the National Research Council of the National Academies.

Application Deadline Dates:

Pre-doctoral: November 14, 2011

Dissertation: November 17, 2011

Postdoctoral: November 17, 2011

## Admissions

### Fall 2012 Updates

#### GRE

The GRE revised General Test launched this August 2011. The new score scale for the GRE revised General Test is as follows:

- Verbal Reasoning & Quantitative Reasoning scores will be reported on a new 130 – 170 score scale, in 1 – point increments. Previous to August, the score scale was 200 – 800 with 10 – point increments.
- Analytical Writing scores will remain on the same 0 – 6 score scale and half-point increments.

With these changes there will be some delay in score reporting. The following is the estimated time frame for scores being released:

Test Date	Score Release Date
August 1, 2011 – September 8, 2011	November 8, 2011
September 9, 2011 – October 2, 2011	November 10, 2011
October 3, 2011 – October 15, 2011	November 17, 2011
October 16, 2011 – November 18, 2011	December 1, 2011
November 19, 2011 – November 28, 2011	December 8, 2011
November 29, 2011 or later	10 – 15 days after the test date

Please keep in mind that for a couple of years you will see both old and new scores.

For more information regarding the GRE changes, please visit the following link:

<http://www.ets.org/gre>

#### **Evaluation Service Report**

Enrollment Services has implemented a change in regards to the Evaluation Service Report. Effective immediately, we will be directing applicants to IERF (International Education Research Foundation, Inc) only. We will no longer be directing students to ECE. Also, applicants will need to request the "**Detailed Report with Course Level Identification**" and have that sent directly to Graduate Admissions.

#### **Adviser Workshops**

In preparation for the fall 2012, we will once again be hosting 3 informational workshops to review deadlines and the admissions process. The workshops will be offered on the following dates and times:

- Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> 1:30 – 3:00 pm
- Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 10:30 am
- Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> 1:30 – 3:00 pm

An e-mail invitation will be sent out shortly. You may also RSVP with your date and time preference now, to Margarita at mharlow@mail.sdsu.edu.