

Pirate Pearls

The Graduate Student Newsletter Volume 2, No 7

March 2017

The Department for Disability Support Services supports Grad Students

Disability Support Services (DSS) is committed to providing services that allow individuals with disabilities to have equal access to the programs and services of the university. This can include removal of physical, academic and attitudinal barriers that may impact an individual as they work toward completing their degree program. A large segment of our work is done with students who have “hidden” disabilities including learning, attentional and psychological impairments.

The most common accommodations provided in these situations can include testing accommodations, alternate formats of printed material and assistive technologies such as screen reading software. Any student, who has received accommodations in the past, is newly diagnosed or is experiencing difficulty is encouraged to contact DSS for a consultation.

We can be reached at (252) 737-1016 or via email at DSS.dept@ecu.edu. Additional information is available at our website www.ecu.edu/accessibility.

Important Reminders & Deadlines

March 13-17	Advising for Summer & Fall Registration	Contact Your Program
March 23	Last day for graduate students to withdraw from term-length courses or withdraw from school without grades by 5:00 PM EST.	Academic Calendar
March 24	Registration for Graduate Students opens at 1:00 PM EST	Academic Calendar Registration Tutorial
April 10	First eBill notification for main campus and distance education for Summer 2017	Payment Dates
April 20	Last day to upload a thesis or dissertation into VIREO for a May 2017 graduation date.	VIREO
April 25	Last day for Graduate Students to remove incompletes given during Spring Semester and/or Summer Session 2016.	Academic Calendar
April 26	Reading Day/Finals begin at 4:00 PM EST	Academic Calendar
May 5	Commencement	Commencement

In Your Words....

Helpful Information from Graduate Students TO Graduate Students

How Student Organization Activity Enhanced My Graduate Student Experience

By Jena Bruno, master's student in Communication Sciences and Disorders

Taking on a leadership position during my first year of graduate school has been the most rewarding experience. When I first became President of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA), I had no idea what the role fully entailed and it intimidated me in the beginning. What I did not expect to gain from this experience was building so many professional and personal relationships with the officers of my organization, faculty members of the Communication Sciences & Disorders department, and future colleagues in the field of speech-language pathology. Between scheduling monthly membership meetings, budgeting NSSLHA expenses, and collaborating with numerous members of the community when planning service events, my skills improved in organization, time management, work ethic, and overall my passion for my field. Being a speech-language pathologist requires the ability to be organized, collaborate with an interdisciplinary team, and to be confident and advocate for those who are in need of speech and language therapy. I fully believe that being a part as NSSLHA has helped prepare me to be successful in my career. I highly encourage any graduate student to become involved in a student organization, whether it's a general membership or a leadership position.

Get Involved! Helpful Links!

[Division of Student Affairs](#)

[Student Activities Board](#)

[Student Government Association \(SGA\)](#)

[Student Engagement & Leadership](#)

[Graduate & Professional Student Senate](#)

Grants & Scholarships

ECU Libraries Has Grant-Finding Help for You!

Are you interested in searching for grant funding opportunities? ECU Libraries will host two hands-on sessions that focus on searching for grant funding opportunities in various databases like SPIN and the Foundation Directory Online. Please use the links below to register for the sessions. If you have questions, please contact Christine Andresen (andresenc@ecu.edu) or Jeanne Hoover (hooverj@ecu.edu).

Registration Links:

Tuesday, March 21 from 4:00 -5:00 p.m. in 3503 Laupus Library, [Register Here](#).

Wednesday, March 22 from 4:00- 5:00 p.m. in 1418 Joyner Library, [Register Here](#).

Financial Resources On The Graduate School Website

At ECU, we believe that your pursuit of higher education should not be hindered by any type of financial hardship. No matter what your financial background is, we are committed to helping you and your family figure out the best options to make your education affordable and attainable. Make sure you review all of the links on the left side of the [Graduate School Financial Resources](#) website. The [Additional Sources](#) link has a variety of links to help you find information on financial wellness, loans, scholarships, and more! Elsewhere on the ECU website, you can find information such as the [ECU Scholarships portal](#) where you can apply for numerous scholarships offered throughout the university. Make sure you complete this application annually so that each year of graduate school you are considered for a variety of awards. Also, the [Financial Aid Office](#) has many resources for financial assistance that could help with attaining your graduate degree. In addition, make sure to speak with your program director to determine the procedures for obtaining an assistantship if available!

2017



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS



SOUTHEAST

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MODERNIZING GRADUATE EDUCATION



KEYNOTE

Dr. Amy McCandless

2016-2017 President

Conference of Southern Graduate Schools

APRIL 7-9, 2017 | Birmingham, AL

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: [HTTPS://NAGPS-SECONFERENCE-2017.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://NAGPS-SECONFERENCE-2017.EVENTBRITE.COM)

IMPORTANT DATES

Discount Hotel Rate - March 8

Early Bird Registration Rate - March 17

Abstract Submission - March 17

UAB THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
Knowledge that will change your world



SAVE THE DATE

Spring Fest

Wednesday,

April 12 4:00pm to 7:00pm



Graduate School Bowling Nights

Graduate Students enjoy free bowling along with your professors!!



Outer Limitz Bowling Alley

Mendenhall Student Center

ECU One Card is required

Upcoming Dates

March 23, 2017 7 PM—11 PM

April 20, 2017 7 PM—11 PM

Leadership Events

Orientation Assistance Needed!!

We know that graduate students transition into their graduate studies best when they attend or participate in some type of orientation activity. We offer an online Blackboard orientation to all students and they are automatically enrolled in it when they are accepted. You may remember doing this when you started!

The Graduate School also hosts an on-campus orientation each August and this year it is **August 17 from 8:00 AM—3:00 PM on east (main) campus**. We would like to increase the number of graduate students involved in this event and would like to know if YOU would volunteer!

We plan to have several graduate student panels as a part of the program—to give new students the perspective of current graduate students. We are planning panels on academics, student organization involvement, research, and acclimating to Greenville and more! If you are going to be in Greenville on Thursday August 17, 2017 and can commit to about 90 minutes to serve as a panelist, please click on this link to sign up! Dr. Kathy Cox will contact people in May to confirm participation.

[Orientation Volunteer Sign Up](#)

2018-19 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Competition Open

The 2018-2019 competition for the [Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program](#) is now open. The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program offers teaching, research and combination teaching/research awards in over 125 countries for the 2018-2019 academic year. Opportunities are available for college and university faculty and administrators as well as for professionals, artists, journalists, scientists, lawyers, independent scholars and many others. Interested faculty and professionals are encouraged to learn more about core Fulbright U.S. Scholar opportunities by visiting the online [Catalog of Awards](#). Sign up for upcoming webinars to learn about region and discipline specific opportunities.

Regional Webinars:

- [Fulbright Opportunities in the Middle East and North Africa](#) (March 8)
- [Fulbright Opportunities Across Asia](#) (March 15)
- [What's New in Europe](#) (March 21)
- [Fulbright Opportunities in Sub-Saharan Africa](#) (March 28)
- [Fulbright Opportunities in the Western Hemisphere](#) (April 5)

Discipline Webinars:

- [Fulbright Opportunities in Political Science](#) (March 22)
- [Fulbright Opportunities in American Studies](#) (March 29)
- [TEFL and Applied Linguistics with the Fulbright Scholar Program](#) (April 12)
- [Fulbright Opportunities: Business, Economics & Entrepreneurship](#) (April 25)
- [Fulbright Opportunities in Education](#) (April 26)

The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is the U.S. government's flagship international exchange program and is supported by the people of the United States and partner countries around the world. For more information, visit eca.state.gov/fulbright.



U.S. AIR FORCE

Wondering what to do after Graduate School....?

Air Force ROTC is Now Available to Graduate Students!

The Air Force has opened its doors for graduate students wishing to join in 2018 or 2019.

- ♦ **Competitive Pay**
- ♦ **Medical and Dental Healthcare at No Cost**
- ♦ **Monthly Tax-free Stipend While In School**
- ♦ **Generous Retirement Plan**
- ♦ **Food and Housing Allowances**
- ♦ **30 Days of Vacation**

If you are willing to join in 2018 or 2019, are a full-time student, and meet the minimum requirements you will be made a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. Come by 310 Wright Annex (above the Dowdy Bookstore) to find out more!

Contact the AFROTC Recruiter at Detachment 600 for more information

I Lt Matthew R. Carrowan

252-359-6597

Afrotc@ecu.edu