Dean Attoh’s Welcome

Samuel A. Attoh, PhD.

Associate Provost for Research and Centers & Dean of the Graduate School

I would like to take a moment to extend a warm Loyola welcome to our new graduate students and faculty. This is an exciting time to be part of a Graduate School community that is committed to providing a rich environment for intellectual endeavor, creativity, high-quality training, and to expanding knowledge for the service of humanity. This year promises to be highly productive as we embark upon promising initiatives aimed at fostering interdisciplinary research, supporting innovative programmatic and curricular planning, developing a sense of community amongst graduate students, expanding student support services, and engaging in efforts to connect graduate education with undergraduate education. We will also devote much attention to align our strategic initiatives with the University’s 2009-2015 plan, a major part of which requires considerable reflection on how we provide a transformative graduate experience that ensures the success of our students.

The Graduate School continues to be supportive of graduate student research. Last year, forty-eight graduate students received approximately $850,000 in research awards and fellowships from several Federal agencies. More than 30 doctoral students received fellowships to assist with their dissertation completion, and about 110 students received funding to present their research papers at national and international conferences. Applications to the Graduate School have increased significantly and our yield rates are on par with other leading programs in the country. We will continue to work with Graduate Program Directors and the Graduate Students Advisory Council to identify crucial needs and protect and enhance the integrity of all graduate programs.

I wish you all the very best in the coming year.

Samuel A. Attoh

Welcome from Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC)

Allison Fagan, GSAG President

On behalf of the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC), welcome back to another year! As the primary liaison to the Graduate School administration, GSAC works to address graduate student concerns as well as create opportunities for graduate students to share their research and perform service in an interdisciplinary environment. This fall, be on the lookout for another Town Hall meeting with Graduate School administrators as well as service opportunities including the Rogers Park Community Garden beautification project. Looking ahead to next spring, consider submitting an abstract and participating in the 3rd Annual Interdisciplinary Research Symposium (more details will be available late in the fall semester), or submitting to our annual essay contest. If you are interested in becoming a representative for your department or program, we’d love to have you! Any questions or concerns, please contact myself, afagan@luc.edu or Susan Garneau, susangarneau@gmail.com. The GSAC meets once a month on Friday afternoons.

Welcome from Graduate Student of Color Alliance (GSCA)

Amber Hewitt, GSCA President

The Graduate Students of Color Alliance student group provides a forum on the Loyola campus for graduate students and faculty of color to network, support, and offer academic and professional encouragement to its members.

This fall, the GSCA will be partnering with the Graduate School for a gardening community service project on Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 a.m. We will also be hosting a professional development workshop for graduate students in mid-September. Our 2nd annual BRIDGE symposium which links undergraduate students of color with graduate students via panel sessions and mentoring will be held on October 22nd at 4:00 p.m. on the Lake Shore campus. Please contact Amber Hewitt, ahevitt@luc.edu, if you would like to be a presenter at any of our fall events or want to join our email list serve.
Welcome from the Graduate School Alumni Association

Pamela Kibbons, Ph.D., GSAA President

Welcome Back from the Loyola University Graduate School Alumni Association (GSAA). Our organization’s purpose is to advance the alumni community of scholars, as a group of individuals, who reflect the Jesuit heritage of Loyola University. The specific goals of GSAA include: promoting of professional networking; mentoring of students; and fostering a continuous relationship between the alumni and the Graduate School and the respective academic programs.

In support of these goals, several activities and events are planned throughout the upcoming academic year. Please check the Graduate School Alumni website at http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/alumni_welcome.shtml for current events and activities. For further questions please feel free to contact Pamela Kibbons, Ph.D., Graduate School Alumni Association President at pkibbons@luc.edu.

Graduate Student Service Project

Loyola University Chicago invites graduate students to reach out to neighbors, staff, and students to create a more vibrant, active and socially committed campus community. On September 19th, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, volunteers from Loyola’s Community Relations Department, Center for Urban Environmental Research & Policy and The Graduate School will break ground and a sweat. Beautifying local streetscapes is one way for staff and students to demonstrate “action” and “commitment” to the community. At the intersection of Columbia and Lakewood in Rogers Park, just a few blocks from campus, volunteers will plant vegetation reflective of the region’s natural heritage such as purple coneflower, blazing star and more. The planting of the public parkways increases green space and allows community members to more fully enjoy the beauty of our city.

Both the graduate student groups, Graduate School Advisory Council and Graduate Students of Color, will offer volunteers for the project. The student groups’ missions promote service to community and have hosted similar service projects and mentoring programs in the past.

If you are interested in participating in the community garden service project, please contact The Department of Community Relations at 773.508.7450. Lunch will be provided. All are welcome.

Graduate School Alumni Help Create Illinois Holocaust Museum

On April 19, 2009 two Loyola public history graduates joined former President Bill Clinton and Noble Prize winner Elie Wesel, and 2000 guests for the opening of a major new museum in Skokie, Illinois. Kelley (Hayes) Szany and Bethany (Hirt) Fleming played key roles in making possible the opening of the $5 million, 65,000 square foot museum dedicated to victims and survivors of genocide. The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center is a state-of-the-art facility that uses the complete range of public history tools—documents, photographs, hundreds of artifacts, architecture, interior design, lighting, sound and film to tell the story of the Holocaust from pre-war life in central Europe, through the war, ghettos, concentration camps, liberation and resettlement.

Bethany Fleming (Public History, M.A., 2002), Director of Collections and Exhibitions, had the remarkable opportunity to first build the Illinois Holocaust Museum’s collections and then work with designers and curators on the creation of the exhibits. Her research included trips to Auschwitz-Birkenau and other camps, Holocaust museums in the United States, and the Yad Vashem Memorial in Israel. One of the signature artifacts on display is a German railcar from the Nazi period. The design theme of the museum takes the visitor on an emotional and chronological journey from the darkness of the Holocaust to the light of survival and rededication.

Kelley Szany (Public History, M.A., 2002) is the Associate Director of Education at the new museum. She has been with the institution since 2000 when she first worked at the original storefront education center as an unpaid student intern. In addition to playing an important role in the development of the museums’ exhibits, Kelley has been busy training 140 volunteers who will serve as docents and developing resource guides, lesson plans, teacher workshops, and teaching trunks to prepare for the estimated 250,000 school children who will be visiting the museum. In 2008, Kelley was honored by the Jewish Federation of Chicago with the Samuel Goldsmith Award for her work in educating people that the Holocaust is more than a Jewish issue, “but one that affects and reflects societies and cultures throughout the world.” Upon receipt of the award, Kelley explained, “Little did I know that when I first came to this organization...the amazing efforts of [Holocaust survivors] would not only touch my life and inspire my work but would serve as a catalyst to create a world-class museum and education center.”
Dissertation Boot Camp

The summer got off to a busy start for 31 of our doctoral students who participated in our 2nd annual, week-long intensive writing program. The first session ran from May 18-22nd and the second was June 15-19th in the Information Commons, Lake Shore Campus. Dr. Dina Berger, Assistant Professor in History and Dr. Jessica Horowitz, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, coached the students on strategies for writing success, offered tales from those who made it to the other side (completed their dissertation) and supported hard work and time devoted to writing. Although not many would have considered it to be a fun or easy week, our students met others from nearly every discipline, participated in peer-reviews on varying topics and even had time to socialize at lunch.

Our students made great use of their time and demonstrated huge leaps in progress on their proposal and/or final chapters of the dissertation. One of our participants has already defended her dissertation later this past summer and has moved on to start a new job. The Graduate School will continue to meet with these students periodically and monitor their progress.

If you are interested in participating in this intensive writing program next summer, look for application information in January.

Graduate/Undergraduate Mentoring

Jessica Horowitz, Ph.D., Assistant Dean
The Graduate School

In an effort to support doctoral students in completion of their dissertation, the Graduate School launched a pilot program, the Graduate/Undergraduate Research Mentoring Program (GURMP). This program, designed by Dr Jessica Horowitz, matches undergraduate students who are interested in research and graduate education with a graduate student in need of a research assistant and has an interest in mentoring. This model is loosely based on similar programs for undergraduates who work with faculty on their research; however GURMP also emphasizes the mentoring experience. This first session included five graduate students from various disciplines who chose an undergraduate with similar interests. Each pair collaborated on the graduate student’s project throughout the summer and will make a presentation to the Graduate School Deans and advisors in September. In addition to hands-on research experience together, the groups attended several meetings to discuss how to create a dynamic CV, life in graduate school, and research experiences outside of academia.

Both the graduate and undergraduate students received a stipend for their participation, along with some support on research costs. Dr. Horowitz presented this model in March, 2009 at the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities Graduate meeting in Maryland, where it was positively received. Based on preliminary results, this competitive program will be offered next summer to all qualified doctoral students. More details about the application process will be announced in the November Graduate School Quarterly.

GradShare.com – Where graduate students help each other succeed. Unlike, MySpace and Facebook, GradShare.com is an online community specifically for graduate students, university administrators and undergraduates who are interested in graduate study. On the site, members of the community can ask and answer questions, get expert advice, share graduate school experiences and, if your school participates, access links to school information, announcements, forms, and other resources. The site is closely monitored to keep it true to its mission to help graduate students succeed. All you need in order to join the GradShare community is an email address from an educational institution (one ending in .edu). Loyola Graduate School will be joining the GradShare community within the next few months.

Ph. D students at the Klarcheck Information Commons discuss their work together at the Dissertation Boot Camp held this spring.
GRADUATE STUDENTS

- Robert Mitchell, Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry doctoral student in the laboratory of Dr. Michael Collins, was awarded a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Rob was awarded the $70,000 ($35,000 per year) IDPH Alzheimer’s Research Fund Early Researchers Award to study “Neuroprotection from Amyloid-β Neurotoxicity by Moderate Ethanol Preconditioning: Underlying Mechanisms”.

- Matthew Bartucci, a graduate student in chemistry, won one of the Illinois Academy of Science’s research grants. Matt will use the grant to help him study the syntheses of new and interesting molecules, their applications, and how they might help make smart electronic technology such as light sources which automatically detect the ambient light level and then adjust for appropriate brightness.

- Vanessa Raschke, graduate assistant in the Developmental Psychology department, was awarded the 2008 Paula Menyuk Travel Award for her presentation titled, “Metalinguistic awareness in monolingual and bilingual children and its relationship to receptive vocabulary scores and performance on a reading readiness test.”

GRADUATE ALUMNI

- Mark Allman (Theology, Ph.D., 2002) was awarded the Catholic Theological Society Book of the Year for his new book, “Who Would Jesus Kill? War, Peace and the Christian Tradition” a “concise, provocative look at the continuum of approaches to war and peace within the Christian tradition and beyond: pacifism, holy war and just war.” Dr. Allman is a Faculty Associate in the Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations, as well as an Associate Professor in the Department of Religious and Theological Studies at Merrimack College in Massachusetts.

- Robert Girardi (Public History, M.A., 1991) has just published his sixth book titled, “Campaigning With Uncle Billy: The Civil War Memoirs of Sergeant Lyman S. Widney”, an exploration of an eyewitness account of the American Civil War. When not publishing books, Mr. Girardi works as a Chicago police detective, develops exhibits at the Chicago Historical Museum and local historical societies, and was a founder of the Chicago Civil War Symposium. He is a frequent commentator on the Civil War in the media, and is the former President of the Chicago Civil War Roundtable.

GRADUATE FACULTY

- Dr. David Chinitz, former GPD in English, has just published A COMPANION TO T. S. ELIOT (published by Wiley-Blackwell). The collection contains 37 essays, including one by Loyola English Professor, Dr. Chinitz, and one of the English Department’s PhD graduates (2006), Patrick Query, who now teaches at West Point.

- Suzanne Gossett, our senior Renaissance scholar, has published an edition of Philester, by two Renaissance dramatists, Beaumont and Fletcher, with Arden Early Modern Drama (out in September). This is a new series, of which Dr. Gossett is one of the General Editors. The press is launching the series first at the British Shakespeare Association meeting at King’s College and the Globe in September, and then again at the Shakespeare Association of America in Chicago in April.

- Allen Frantzen, Professor of English at Loyola University, saw the fruition of his work in this summers’ performances of “Son at the Front”. Based on the World War I novel by Edith Wharton, Frantzen’s “play with music” was performed at the Athenaeum Theater in Chicago this past June. For more information about the play and performances, please visit: www.sonatthefront.com.

GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

- Dr. Mooney-Melvin, Associate Dean and Dr. Jessica Horowitz, Assistant Dean attended the Council of Graduate Schools 2009 New Deans Institute and Summer Workshop in Quebec City, Quebec. They joined 210 participants who focused on the challenges of graduate education administration in this economic climate. They were able to discuss and receive feedback about Loyola’s Ph.D. completion project from other member institutions.

We invite you to send us information that you think should be shared – an outstanding student, faculty mentor, research initiatives and anything else that helps us improve how we spread the word about graduate education at Loyola.

The next edition will be published in November, 2009. Please send your submissions by October 15th to gradnewsletter@luc.edu.
Sponsored by the Joan and Bill Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage

‘Faith in Focus’ Film Series with Discussion
Klarcheck Information Commons, 4th floor

- September 3, 7:00 p.m. - Alejandro Gomez Monteverde’s Bella
- October 22, 6:30 p.m. - John Huston’s Wise Blood

‘Catholic Minds, Catholic Matters’ Lecture Series
Klarcheck Information Commons, 4th floor

- October 29, 4:00 p.m., Father John Haughey, S.J. will speak on “Reawakening to the Relationship between Study and Worship”
  This event will include a signing of Fr. Haughey’s new Georgetown University Press book, ”Where is Knowing Going? The Horizons of the Knowing Subject”.

Important Dates to Remember:

- October 1 – Last day to submit thesis or dissertation for required format check for December degree conferal.
- October 9 – Last day to apply for foreign language examinations to fulfill Research Tool requirements.
- November 2 – Last day to submit final approved copies of dissertation or thesis for December degree conferal
- November 9 – Foreign language examination, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
  Graduate School office, Granada Center, 4th floor LSC
- December 1 – Last day to file an Application to Receive a Degree for May 2010 AND August 2010 degree conferal.

Upcoming Events:

- August 27, 1:20 p.m. – Cubs Game at Wrigley Field, Tickets are available first come-first served. $15 each, 2-ticket limit. Cash-only purchase tickets in the Graduate School, Granada Center 400.
- September 19, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Community Service Project (see page 2).
- TBA September/October – “Finding External Funding for Graduate Students” – Professional Development Workshop

Graduate Student Funding Opportunity:

Interested in learning how to find grant opportunities for external funding? The Graduate School strongly encourages students to seek external funding to help support their coursework, travel for research work and thesis/dissertation writing. The University offers access to the funding search engine, COS at http://www.luc.edu/ors/COS_Services.shtml.

In addition, the Research Incentive for Graduate Students (RIAGS) program offers incentives for graduate students who apply for external funding http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/RIAGS.shtml.

For more information on how to best utilize COS and the RIAGS program, contact Dr. Jessica Horowitz at jhorow@luc.edu or (773)508-2476.

GRADUATE SCHOOL STAFF CHANGES

- Ruth Ashton has been hired to replace Diane Shaw, Executive Secretary of the Graduate School who retired early this year. Ruth has worked for the Graduate School for three years as part-time Office Assistant and is a recent B.A. graduate in Sociology at Loyola University.
- Kristy Grob, has replaced Elizabeth Hoffman as the new Graduate Assistant in the Graduate School. Kristy is a doctoral student in the Philosophy program and will be working on formatting, electronic submission of theses and dissertations, and assisting us with Graduate student workshops and presentations. Thanks to Elizabeth for all of her patience and hard work.

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