



Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL QUARTERLY

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Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC)



Jackie Lennon,
Clinical Psychology

GSAC President

Fellow graduate students, welcome back! The spring semester is an exciting one, as the days (slowly) get warmer and sunnier! The Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC) had a productive fall semester and is on track to continue that this spring.

Looking back, in November we worked with Water Tower Campus Life to sponsor the Annual Festival of Lights Holiday Party. Students enjoyed food, warm beverages, and a holiday gift while watching the city's Festival of Lights Parade route down Michigan Avenue! In December, several GSAC members volunteered at the 15th Annual Toy Parade,

sponsored by the Chicago Firefighters Union Local 2 and Catholic Charities. GSAC members worked alongside firefighters and their families to unload and sort hundreds of donated toys and bikes from the fire trucks!



GSAC Toy Parade Volunteers

Currently, GSAC is preparing for the 7th Annual Research Symposium for Graduate School Students, which will be held in the Life Sciences Building on April 12th. This year's theme is "Methodological Explorations" (see page 3 for more information). In addition, The Graduate School and GSAC have worked together to provide coffee in the Cudahy Graduate Student Lounge (Cudahy Library, 3rd floor). Whether you are in need of quiet space to write or a place to relax and meet other students, stop by the lounge and enjoy a cup of coffee. Lastly, we would like to congratulate Stephanie Romeo, recently nominated to serve as Treasurer this semester!

GSAC acts as the voice of the graduate student body and serves to address the unique needs of graduate students. If you have questions, concerns, suggestions for service and/or social events, or would like to get involved with GSAC, please feel free to e-mail us at gsac@LUC.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!

President: Jackie Lennon, *Clinical Psychology*

Vice President: Nate Jung, *English*

Secretary: Conor Desmond, *JD/Public Policy*

Treasurer: Stephanie Romeo, *Cultural & Education Policy Studies*

LUC.edu/gradschool/graduatestudentadvisorycouncil/

[facebook.com/LoyolaGSAC](https://www.facebook.com/LoyolaGSAC)

HSD Graduate Students Receive Predoctoral Fellowship Awards

Congratulations to two recent Health Sciences Division Predoctoral Fellowship awardees:



Dan Blackwell is a 3rd-year PhD student in the Department of Cell and Molecular Physiology, working in the laboratory of Dr. Seth Robia. Dan was awarded an American Heart Association Midwest Affiliate Predoctoral

Fellowship for his project entitled, "Calcium ATPase Regulation as a Mechanistic Target for Novel Heart Failure Treatment". The dynamic regulation of calcium is essential for proper heart function, and calcium ATPase is a protein that plays an important role in this process. Dan's dissertation work utilizes advanced molecular and technical approaches to understand how calcium ATPase activity is regulated and how its function changes during heart failure, with the ultimate goal of targeting this protein in heart failure therapies.



Jill Ippolito is in the 4th year of her doctoral studies in Integrative Cell Biology, working in the laboratory of Dr. Elizabeth Kovacs (Department of Surgery, Burn and Shock Trauma Institute). Jill is the recipient of a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) for Individual Predoctoral

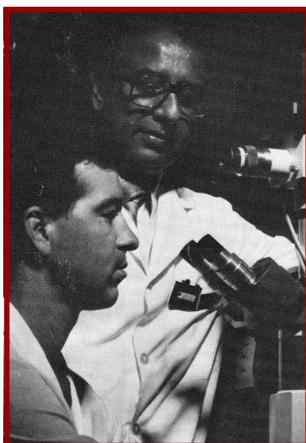
Fellows. Jill's award, funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, is entitled "Ethanol, Lung Mesenchymal Stem Cells, and Pulmonary Inflammation after Burn Injury." The combined effects of alcohol consumption and burn injury lead to impaired healing and pulmonary complications, which contribute to higher morbidity and mortality. Jill's studies seek to understand cellular mechanisms that underlie the inflammation and healing process, in order to develop new targets for the treatment of pulmonary inflammation and improve survival in all burn patients.

Graduate Faculty Mentor

Mitchell Denning, PhD

Professor,
Department of Pathology

Graduate Program
Director,
Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology



Mitch Denning, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (seated at microscope) with his PhD advisor, Dr. Ajit Verma (c. 1989).

“Mentors mix bits and pieces of their experiences as a mentee, keeping what worked and discarding what they felt was disruptive or ineffective.”

Mentoring graduate students is one of the most challenging yet gratifying things I do as a research-intensive faculty at Loyola. Mentoring involves a long-term commitment to partner with a student on a difficult but valuable journey. I use the word “partner” because despite the seemingly inherent conflicts in the advisor/student relationship, both student and advisor have the same goals and make the most progress when they cooperate. The relationship (hopefully) evolves into the student striking out on her or his own, with the advisor feeling pride in the student’s growth and accomplishments.

Like most graduate student advisors, I learned much of my mentoring style from the major mentors in my life. My PhD advisor, Dr. Ajit Verma (see photo), would occasionally come into the lab and perform an experiment himself when things “were not working”. Of course, the experiments would always “work” for him, and I watched and learned how his attention to every detail was the key to his success. He took nothing for granted and prepared every buffer and reagent from scratch. Dr. Verma would also frequently repeat little pearls of wisdom to guide the research forward. For example, after we made some important observations in our cell culture model, he would say

that you always had to verify your findings *in vivo*. My postdoctoral advisor, Dr. Stuart Yuspa, taught me that you can work extremely hard on a research problem and have fun at the same time. He frequently used humor to lighten the mood at boring seminars and meetings, or to raise my spirits when experiments were not yielding useful results. Mentors mix bits and pieces of their experiences as a mentee, keeping what worked and discarding what they felt was disruptive or ineffective. They also learn and adapt as they gain more experience mentoring students and seeing common issues arise. I know I have learned a great deal about identifying students’ needs and implementing approaches to strengthen their skill sets while serving on over fifty graduate student committees here at Loyola over the last 16 years.

I believe that mentoring is not just about teaching specific approaches to solve problems or ask and answer important research questions, but in teaching how to maintain a positive mindset when the research seems hopeless. Such positive attitudes about research can be applied to many circumstances and are not specific for the topic being studied. They are important because I cannot predict the types of research problems that will

be tackled by a student in the future, but I am fairly sure that the student will encounter difficult periods of research.

One important attitude about research is perspective. Perspective is one of the most difficult things I try to convey to my students. The student’s perspective is looking forward, where six months to a year of effort spent trying to learn some new technique or overcome some obstacle is daunting. The mentor’s perspective is looking backwards, where experience has taught that this is time well spent and will pay dividends for the rest of the student’s career. I look back on the two years I spent doing a second postdoctoral fellowship learning additional techniques. I did not publish much during that time, but I now realize that the additional training made me a much more competitive researcher and allowed me to easily address questions that would have otherwise been very difficult. Because I was a graduate student only 25 years ago, I easily recall being anxious to finish my degree and becoming very frustrated with an apparent lack of progress. However, graduate training is an investment, and as a mentor I realize that it is a high-yield, long-term investment that takes patience and dedication, but is well worth the cost.

Announcing a Financial Aid Session for Graduate Students:

"Everything Graduate Students Wanted to Know about Financial Aid but Were Afraid to Ask"

Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Cuneo 003 (bottom floor of Cuneo), LSC



- ◆ How do I apply for a student loan?
- ◆ How much should I borrow?
- ◆ When will I need to pay these back?

Whether you have been borrowing loans for years or just considering the option, you probably have some questions. This comprehensive financial aid workshop will provide the information that every graduate student needs to become a savvy borrower and take control over her or his loan debt. Discussion topics will include types of student loans, how to apply, loan repayment plans, borrowing on a budget, useful resources, and more. Light Refreshments will be served.

Co-Sponsored by The Graduate School and Financial Aid Office



7th Annual Graduate School Research Symposium

The Graduate School and the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC) will host its 7th Annual Research Symposium on Saturday, April 12, 2014 (Life Sciences Bldg, LSC). The symposium will be a forum for Loyola Graduate School students to present their scholarly work and is a part of the University-wide annual Weekend of Excellence activities. The goal of the Research Symposium is to provide graduate students with an opportunity to share their research while engaging with those from other disciplines. We hope to provide participants with an appreciation for the broad diversity of scholarly research that Loyola Graduate School students have accomplished.

The year's Research Symposium theme is **Methodological Explorations**. Support your fellow graduate students as they display their research based on the methodology of their project. Methodology is referred to broadly and may represent research design, analytic strategy, data collection method, data type, and more. More information about the symposium can be found at the Research Symposium website: LUC.edu/gradschool/research_symposium.shtml.

Monetary awards will be given to the top paper presenters and poster presenters during the symposium reception. If you have any questions, please contact the Research Symposium Committee at gsac@LUC.edu.

Graduate School Outreach Services (GSOS)

GSOS is partnering with Sarah's Circle to collect donations. Over the course of their 33 year history, Sarah's Circle has provided housing assistance, case management, referral services, and life necessities for thousands of women. They encourage women to empower themselves by rebuilding both emotionally and physically, so that they can realize their unique potential.



Sarah's Circle accepts in-kind donations of toiletries, books, and art supplies, but are currently in high need of the following items: bladder pads, deodorant, first-aid kits, powdered laundry detergent, feminine care products (regular and super), hand sanitizer, toilet paper, sunscreen, women's vitamins, ibuprofen, non-liquid cold medicine, cough drops, lip balm (chap stick), journals/notepads, and umbrellas. GSOS will be collecting these items until May 16, 2014. The items are scheduled to be delivered to Sarah's Circle on May 21, 2014.

For more information about this service opportunity, please contact Sylvia Brown-Hood, Program Coordinator of GSOS, at Sbrown3@LUC.edu.

UPCOMING KEY DATES AND DEADLINES



Please visit the Graduate School website's Key Dates and Deadlines for a complete list:
LUC.edu/gradschool/key_dates.shtml

Mar 24	Last day (5:00 p.m.) to withdraw with a grade of "W". After this date, the penalty grade of "WF" is assigned.
Apr 1	Last day to submit final approved copies of dissertation or thesis for May 2014 degree conferral. For students in programs requiring a dissertation or thesis, all degree requirements MUST be met by this date unless a master's student is completing classes.
Apr 1	Latest approval date for thesis defense proposal ballots for participation (walking, not graduating) in May 2014 Commencement.
Apr 3	Fall registration begins for Graduate School students. Check LOCUS for details.
Apr 17-21	No classes Thursday evening (classes that start 4:15 p.m. or later are canceled) through Monday afternoon (classes beginning on or after 4:15 p.m. will be held). Offices closed on Good Friday.
Apr 25	Spring Semester Ends.
Apr 28-May 6	Final Exams, no exams on Sunday.
Apr 30	Study Day: No examinations.
May 7	Graduate School and IPS Commencement, 3:00 p.m., Gentile Arena, LSC.

Graduate Student Accolades

PRESENTATIONS (since November 2013)

- Beasley, B.** (English). Hopkins and the Meaning(s) of Mortality, at the *Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J., Conference*, Regis University, Denver, CO. December 2013.
- Chen, M.** (Cell Bio, Neurobiology & Anatomy). Dampening the gut-liver axis after burn injury in intoxicated mice attenuates pulmonary inflammation at the *American Medical Association Research Symposium*, National Harbor, MD. November 2013.
- Flanagan, T.** (Theology). Hosting the unwelcome guest: Interpreting the body in pain as a site of dispossession and possession, at the *American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature*, Baltimore, MD. November 2013.
- Flanagan, T.** (Theology). The limits of narrativity for patients at the end of life: The body, technology, and the practice of accompaniment in Paul Ricoeur's 'Living Up to Death', at the *American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature*, Baltimore, MD. November 2013.
- Irby, C.** (Sociology). Saving families from secularism: The power of Catholic lay movements in post-war America, at the *Social Science History Association*, Chicago, IL. November, 2013.
- Irby, C.** (Sociology), with Avishai, O. The missing gender revolution in the sociology of religion, at the *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Boston, MA. November, 2013.
- Irby, C.** (Sociology), with Williams, R.H., & Warner, S.R. "Church" in *Black and White: The Organizational Lives of Young Adults*, at the *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Boston, MA, November, 2013.
- Kibbe, B.** (Philosophy). Imagination in the city: Iris Marion Young and city life as a normative ideal, at the *CUNY- Brooklyn, Philosophy of the City Conference*. December 2013.
- Kolkey, J.** (English). Organizing anarchy: Class, intellectual property, and graphic satire, at the *Modern Language Association*, Chicago, IL. January 2014.
- Lloyd, M.** (Social Work), with Dentato, M.P. Examining the role of complacency regarding sexual risk behavior among men who have sex with men: Implications for HIV/AIDS education and prevention efforts, at the *LGBTQ Health & Wellness Conference*, Chicago, IL. November 2013.
- Lloyd, M.** (Social Work), with Dentato, M.P. Examining the role of complacency regarding sexual risk behavior among men who have sex with men: Implications for HIV/AIDS education and prevention efforts, at the *World's AIDS Day Symposium*, Chicago, IL. December 2013.
- Lloyd, M.** (Social Work), with Dentato, M.P., Craig, S.L., & Messinger, L. Assessing the implicit curriculum: Environmental factors that impact North American LGBTQ social work student learning and perceptions of support, at the *Society for Social Work and Research*, San Antonio, Texas. January 2014.
- Lynch, N.** (Chemistry), with Hoang, T. Additive and non-additive mechanisms of toxicity of bi-metal mixtures to fathead minnows, at *SETAC*, Nashville, TN. November 2013.
- Manzano, L.** (Higher Education), with Kodama, C., Poon, O., Furr, S. The face of Midwest Asian America: The Midwest Asian American Students Union, at the *NASPA Region IV-East*, Skokie, IL. November 2013.
- Naveros Cordova, N.** (Theology). The place of Jerusalem as portrayed by Luke and Philo of Alexandria, at the *Midwest Region Society of Biblical Literature Meeting*, Olivet Nazarene University. February 2014.
- Pinceti, E.** (Cell Bio, Neurobiology & Anatomy), with Mott, N.N., Rao, Y.S., & Pak, T.R. Functional implications of Estrogen Receptor β posttranslational modifications in neurons, at the *Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience*, San Diego, CA. November 2013.
- Simmons, S.** (Higher Education), with Jourian, T.J., Devaney, K., Pitcher, E.N., Schneider, F., Nicolazzo, Z., Turner, J., Faughn, J., Johnson, A., & Davis, L.P. T* Circle: A dialogue among Trans* and Gender Non-Conforming educators, at the *ACPA-College Student Educators International*, Indianapolis, IN. January 2014.
- Squire, D.** (Higher Education), with Mobley, S.D. Negotiating race and sexual orientation in the college choice process of Black gay male, at the *Association for the Study of Higher Education*, St. Louis, MO. November 2013.
- Squire, D.** (Higher Education), with Poon, O., Kodama, C., Byrd, A., Chan, J., & Bishundat, D. Partial portrayals: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in higher education literature, at the *Association for the Study of Higher Education*, St. Louis, MO. November 2013.
- Stokar, H.** (Social Work). Lecture to National Council of Rehabilitation Education members and other attendees on techniques for engaging and supporting employers in the process of hiring individuals who are deaf/hard of hearing or have disabilities, at the *NCRE/RSA/CSAVR Fall Conference*, Washington, DC. November 2013.
- Tripp, J.** (Theology). *Whose kingdom?: The revelation of Gabriel, the Davidic Covenant, and Herod's relationship with Rome*, at the *Midwest Society of Biblical Literature*, Bourbonnais, IL. February 2014.
- Volk, A.** (Molecular Biology), with Zhang, J. AML cells utilize TNF-Driven JNK signaling as a critical NF- κ B-Independent survival signal, at the *American Society of Hematology*, New Orleans, LA. December 2013.

PUBLICATIONS (since November 2013)

- Adams, W.** (Research Methodology), with Beglinger, L.J., Adams, W.H., Langbehn, D., Fiedorowicz, J.G., Jorge, R., Biglan, K., Caviness, J., Olson, B., Robinson, R.G., Kiebertz, K., & Paulsen, J.S. Results of the citalopram to enhance cognition in Huntington disease trial. *Movement Disorders*, 1-5. December 2013.
- Calpino, T.** (Theology). Women, work and leadership in Acts. *Mohr Siebeck in the series WUNT II (Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament)*. November 2013.
- Desai, P.** (School Psychology), with Shriberg, D. Bridging social justice and children's rights to enhance school psychology scholarship and practice. *Psychology in the Schools*. January 2014.
- Feltman, D.** (Bioethics and Health Policy), with Stokes, T., Kett, J., & Lantos, J.D. Is treatment futile for an extremely premature infant with giant omphalocele? *Pediatrics* (133.1), 123-8. January 2014.
- Hanson, E.** (English). Toward an asexual narrative structure. *Routledge*. January 2014.
- Hebron, A.** (Bioethics and Health Policy), with McGee, S. Precedent autonomy should be respected in life-sustaining treatment decisions. *Journal of Medical Ethics* (40.3), 1-3. February 2014.
- Kilianski, A.** (Microbiology and Immunology), with Baker, S.C. Cell-based antiviral screening against coronaviruses: Developing virus-specific and broad-spectrum inhibitors. *Antiviral Research* (101), 105-112. January 2014.
- Kondrat, A.** (Philosophy). Moral distress: A different perspective. *Health Care Ethics USA* (22.1), 14. February 2014.
- Legarreta-Castillo, F.** (Theology). The figure of Adam in Rom 5:12-21 and I Cor 15:21-22, 45-49: The new creation and its ethical and social reconfigurations. *Fortress Press*. January 2014.
- Leintz, C.** (Bioethics). The ethics of regulatory mandates for pediatric research. *Regulatory Focus*, 1-4. January 2014.
- Lennon, J.** (Clinical Psychology), with Li-Grining, C.P., Raver, C.C., Jones-Lewis, D., & Madison-Boyd, S. Targeting classrooms' emotional climate and preschoolers' socioemotional adjustment: Implementation of the Chicago School Readiness Project. *Journal of Prevention & Intervention in the Community*. November 2013.
- Martinez, S.** (Chemistry), with Wu, R., Sanishvili, R., Liu, D., & Holz, R. The active site sulfenic acid ligand in nitrile hydratases can function as a nucleophile. *Journal of the American Chemical Society* (136.4), 1186-1189. January 2014.
- Martinez, S.** (Chemistry), with Kuhn, M.L., Russell, J.T., Holz, R.C., & Elgren, T.E. Acrylamide production using encapsulated nitrile hydratase from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in a sol-gel matrix. *Journal of Molecular Catalysis B: Enzymatic* (100), 19-24. February 2014.
- Moy, G.** (School Psychology), with Shriberg, D. Best practices in social justice advocacy. *National Association of School Psychologists*. January 2014.
- Rao, Y.** (Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry), with Prins, S.A., Przybycien-Szymanska, M.M., & Pak, T.R. Long-term effects of peripubertal binge EtOH exposure on hippocampal microRNA expression in the rat. *PLoS One* (8.12). December 2013.
- Rubin, M.A.** (Bioethics and Health Policy). The collaborative autonomy decision-making model. *Neurocritical Care* (DOI 10.1007/s12028-013-9922-2). November 2013.
- Swetz, K.** (Bioethics and Health Policy), with Mansel, J.K. Ethical issues and palliative care in the cardiovascular intensive care units. *Cardiology Clinics* (31.4), 657-8. November 2013.
- Tuminello Hartman, E.** (Clinical Psychology), with Rupert, P., & Miller, A. Work demands and resources, work-family conflict, and family functioning among practicing psychologists. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice* (44.5), 283-289. December 2013.

EXTERNAL AWARDS (since November 2013)

- Congratulations to **Anthony Di Lorenzo** (History) for receiving a Short-Term Research Fellowship (\$2,000) from the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello, December 11, 2013.
- Congratulations to **Natalie Lynch** (Chemistry) for receiving the Best Student Presentation Award (\$300) at the 2013 SETAC North America 34th Annual Meeting, November 21, 2013.
- Congratulations to **Mallory Paynich** (Microbiology and Immunology) for receiving the American Association of Immunologists' Young Investigator Award (\$125) at the Autumn Immunology Conference, November 21-24, 2013.
- Congratulations to **Andrew Volk** (Molecular Biology) for receiving the Abstract Achievement Award (\$500) at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Hematology, December 7, 2013.

Research Experience for Master's (REM) Program Fellowship

As part of its commitment to graduate level research, The Graduate School provides support for mentored research at the Master's level. Fellowships of \$2,000 are awarded on a competitive basis to outstanding students who have a demonstrated record of academic excellence.

The integration of research and teaching is an integral part of the transformative education experience at Loyola University Chicago. The purpose of the REM program is to provide Master's students with limited research skills the opportunity to engage in a mentored research experience that provides intellectual depth and breadth along with a capacity to think critically and reason analytically. The following two students have been awarded the Fellowship for spring 2014:

Josh Arens (Public History) – Mentor: Kyle Roberts, PhD

This project is part of the Jesuit Libraries Provenance Project and part of its goal is to use a social media image-sharing site to reconstruct this aspect of the Catholic intellectual tradition as a means of identifying past donors and virtually reuniting dispersed collections. These vestiges of a book's previous life hold a key to its origins and to the world of early and modern Catholic print culture. The catalog is the original St. Ignatius College catalog and the project touches on many aspects of the Catholic engagement with the arts, humanities, and sciences. By utilizing a freely accessible, online social media image-sharing platform (a Flickr site), the project hopes to create a participatory community of bibliographers, academics, private collectors, alumni, and students interested in the origin of Jesuit-held books.

Loren Velasquez (Applied Statistics) – Mentor: Tim O'Brien, PhD

Loren will analyze and statistically explain where unhealthy versus healthy homes are located in the City of Chicago, taking into account all 77 communities of Chicago, as well as the Chicago building and public health indicators data obtained from the City of Chicago website. By using spatial statistics to cluster the different communities that are significantly impacted by health variables and by using the Esri ArcMap software to visually display the masked trend and relationships, steps toward getting these issues resolved can be achieved.

Registration for the 2014 Commencement Ceremonies is Now Open!

The Graduate School and Institute of Pastoral Studies will, together, host their Commencement ceremony on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at 3:00 p.m., in the Gentile Arena at the Lake Shore Campus.

The University only holds one commencement ceremony per year in May. Please note the Graduate School and IPS ceremony does NOT require tickets for guest attendance, nor does it limit the number of attendees.



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Registration to Attend the Commencement Ceremony

Graduate students whose degrees were conferred in December 2013 and those who applied for graduation through LOCUS for May 2014 or August 2014 degree conferral will receive an email to their LUC email account from Loyola University Chicago commencement@LUC.edu about registering for the Commencement ceremony.

You can also link to the ceremony registration site from the Commencement website: LUC.edu/commencement. The latter site includes the commencement schedules, eligibility for participation, academic apparel orders, hotel accommodations, and guest information.

Please note that applying for graduation is not the same as registering for the commencement ceremony. They are two separate processes.

- 1) Apply for graduation (degree conferral) through LOCUS.
- 2) Register for the commencement ceremony through the online registration system sent to you via email or on the commencement website.

Registration for the commencement ceremonies will close on Friday, April 11, 2014.

Academic Apparel and The Grad Fair

PhD, DBE, EdD, and Law candidates will order academic apparel online through Oak Hall: oakhalli.com/colleges/luc.

All other degree candidates will order academic apparel through the Loyola Bookstore or at the Grad Fair: LUC.edu/commencement/students/gradfair/. The Grad Fair is an event sponsored by the Loyola Bookstore that allows students to purchase their academic apparel, have portraits taken, and place orders for other graduation-related items (diploma frames, class rings, announcements, etc.).

Online Academic Apparel Orders Deadlines

April 4, 2014: Deadline to purchase Custom Loyola Regalia

April 11, 2014: Deadline to rent Regalia

May 7, 2014: Distribution of online academic apparel orders; 2nd floor, Damen Student Center, Schmidt MPR starting at 9:00 a.m.

Commencement Student Speaker

Candidates interested in delivering the Graduate School student Commencement speech should apply by **Friday, March 21, 2014**. The student should be a part of the graduation ceremony on May 7, 2014. Ideally, the speech should reflect on the experiences of graduates at a Jesuit university. Speech submission guidelines can be found at LUC.edu/commencement/schools/gradschool/speakers/.



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*Commencement 2014 is coming!
We invite you to send us
information that you think should
be shared – an outstanding
student, faculty mentor, research
initiative, and anything else that
helps us improve how we spread
the word about graduate
education at Loyola. Send your
submissions for the next GSQ to
gradnewsletter@luc.edu by
April 16, 2014.*

Stay connected with the Graduate School

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Dean's Message

Dr. Samuel Attoh, PhD

Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost for Research

Dear Colleagues and Students,

Welcome back! I hope your new year is off to a great start. This spring semester promises to be a rather busy and eventful one as we prepare for our Interdisciplinary Research Symposium during the Weekend of Excellence and, of course, our graduation ceremonies.

The Graduate School staff was invited to participate in a number of sessions and technical workshops at the annual meetings of the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) held in San Diego, California. One of the plenary sessions featured Daphne Koller, a professor at Stanford University, who has researched extensively on MOOCs. While massive open online learning has elicited much discussion and debate lately, the consensus from conference participants was that it is not likely to replace our bricks and mortar form of education. Instead, we will see more integrated and blended forms of MOOCs, SOOCs (small open online courses), and LOOCs (large open online course). At

least we can agree on the fact that MOOCs are certainly useful educational platforms for personal and professional enrichment, and potentially serve as vehicles for democratizing education.

We also had an opportunity to participate in a technical workshop featuring the CGS/TIAA-CREF sponsored project, *Enhancing Student Financial Education*. As project participants, we now have access to GradSense (www.gradsense.org), as well as CGS's Facebook page (facebook.com/GradSense) and Twitter feed (twitter.com/GradSense). Students can utilize GradSense to get information on average debt incurred and income potential related to their field of study. Additionally, students are provided information on loan repayment options, evaluating and negotiating job offers, salaries by occupation, and transitioning out of Graduate School.

Have a great spring semester everyone!

Samuel A. Attoh

Dr. Jessica Horowitz Promoted to Associate Dean for Student Services

The Graduate School is pleased to announce that Dr. Jessica Horowitz has been promoted to Associate Dean for Student Services for The Graduate School. Jessica received her B.S degree in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, her Master's degree in Learning Disabilities from Northwestern University, and her PhD from Loyola University Chicago in Higher Education Administration. Since joining the Graduate School in 2007 as Assistant Dean, Jessica's responsibilities have focused on student academic issues including overseeing and enforcing policies and processes, creating and implementing new initiatives and projects for students, and collaborating with university staff and faculty to offer workshops and professional development programs for graduate students. She also serves as Vice Chair of the Social/Behavioral IRB at Loyola. In her new role as Associate Dean, Jessica's responsibilities will expand beyond student services to incorporate a multitude of tasks associated with assessing and evaluating graduate student learning outcomes and Graduate School programming; ensuring effective interface between The Graduate School and academic technologies that impact student record management systems (Docfinity and PeopleSoft), emerging communication technologies (mobile applications, social media technologies), and online programming; and developing further programs that enhance synergies between graduate and undergraduate students, building on the research mentoring program, and student financial education.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Jessica Horowitz!

Midwest Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) Annual Conference

April 9-11, 2014 – Chicago, IL

- ◆ Dean Samuel Attoh will be one of the panelists on the Plenary Session: **Enhancing Student Financial Education: What is the Role of the Graduate School?**
- ◆ Associate Dean Pat Mooney-Melvin will be presenting: **Mastering the Humanities** at a session honoring the MAGS/ETS Award for Excellence and Innovation in Graduate Education.
- ◆ Associate Dean Jessica Horowitz is the Chair Elect of MAGS and the current Conference Chair for 2014.