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<td>25</td>
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**GSS**

--- est. 1977 ---

Graduate Student Senate  
Center for Student Involvement  
Room 120 L/M  

Kent Student Center Box 18  
Kent, OH 44242  

Cartwright Hall 121C, 650 Hilltop Dr.  
Kent, OH 44242  

(330) 672-0704  
gss@kent.edu  
www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/gss
After a six-year tenure in the Graduate Student Senate, as Geography Senator, Information Services Chair, Vice-Executive Chair, Acting Executive Chair, and Executive Chair, I believe the Senate as a whole is in its best position in its history. Thanks to a combined effort of the Executive Board and the labor of the Senate at large, we oversaw a combined budget of over $520,000 for the 2018-2019 academic year. Providing $396,000 of this in direct support of graduate student organizations, travel, research, and presentation across 583 grad students stands as a testament to the core mission of the Graduate Student Senate.

This support would not have been possible without the combined commitment of President Beverly Warren, Vice President for Research Paul DiCorletto, and Provost Todd Diacon, whose combined contributions to the Senate total $171,000 this past academic year. These commitments to graduate students and research-at-large at Kent State signal the beginning of what will hopefully be a meaningful and substantial shift in the lives of graduate students at Kent State. These awards allow for increased exposure of Kent State research, greater chances of graduate student publication, and seed moneys for national and international grants.

While these funds bring about significant change in the lives of everyday graduate students, they in no way begin to correct the malfeasance of colleges and departments across campus who pay their graduate assistants far below a livable or poverty wage. Some departments are paying graduate students well below $10,000 annually, and in some cases those students teach more than one course a semester. These actions fall far below the moral and ethical standards to which Kent State should hold itself. Going forward, it will be the responsibly of the Graduate Student Senate and any individual or unit on campus which purports to put Students First to hold those units exploiting graduate student labor to a higher moral standard.

Following a year in which grads across the country faced threats of taxation, deportation, and an increasing hostile national climate across the arts and sciences, Kent State graduate student continue to come together in a community of research. From the 34th Annual Graduate Research Symposium, Our Communities of Research, to a presence on the boards of the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students, to an online climate of sharing, the diverse and creative works of our students this year have pushed back against these broader trends. With stronger connections across graduate leadership in Ohio and Kent State’s administration and an incoming Executive Board and advisorship exclusively (spare one) of the best and brightest women leadership on campus, the Graduate Student Senate has only begun creating an atmosphere of financial, cultural, and political respect for all Kent State graduate students.

Best,

Mark Alan Rhodes II
Doctoral Student, Geography
Executive Chair, Graduate Student Senate
2018-2019
SENATORS

Anthropology
Kristen Hirter

Applied Engineering, Sustainability, & Technology
Surejya Prakash Gowda

Architecture
Grace Myers

Art
Alysia Klein

Biological Sciences
Liz Aulino

Biomedical Sciences
Anjali Krishnan

Business Administration
Matt Lozykowski

Chemistry & Biochemistry
Srijana Bhandari

Communication & Information
Nahla Bendefaa

Computer Sciences
Amjad Hossain

Digital Science
Jianfeng Zhu

Economics
Eden Lau

English
Antonio Giorgi

Foundations, Leadership & Administration
Lauren Lesser

Geography
Hanieh Molana

Geology
Catherine Ruhm

Health Sciences
Tyler Singer

History
Joe Bean

Lifespan Development & Educational Sciences
Annaleise Lessick

Liquid Crystal Institute
Runa Koizumi

Mathematics
Nasim Eshghi

Modern & Classical Language Studies
Bibiane Ogue

Music
Kevin Wilson

Nursing
Shadi Kanan

Philosophy
Matthew Boone

Physics
Zeinab Parsouzi

Political Science
Megan Odell-Scott

Psychological Sciences
Kayla Morehead

Public Health
Joud Roufael

Sociology
Bengt George

Teaching, Learning & Curriculum
Ilfa Zhulamanova

Theater & Dance
Patrick Ulrich
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Executive Chair

Mark Rhodes
Doctoral Student Geography

Vice-Executive Chair

Timothy Rose
Doctoral Student Sociology

Finance Chair

Xin Hong
Doctoral Student Geography

Advocacy Chair

Mitchell Powers
Doctoral Student Physics
Symposium Chair

**Danielle French**
Doctoral Student English

Information Services Chair

**Morgan Chaney**
Doctoral Student Biomedical Science

Administrative Services Chair

**Jennifer Mani**
Doctoral Student School of Lifespan Development & Educational Sciences

Advisor

**Dr. Melody Tankersley**
Senior Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies
VICE EXECUTIVE CHAIR / TIMOTHY R. ROSE

The Vice Executive Chair’s responsibilities primarily include: 1.) Providing representation at the university level on a number of committees across Kent State and 2.) Administering the selection of International Travel Award (ITA) recipients.

Committee Representation

This year, GSS appointed representatives to 14 active committees (and 1 temporarily dormant) throughout the university. The Executive Vice Chair is responsible for the coordination of representation. Once appointments are made, the representatives then attend all committee meetings and report back to the Executive Vice Chair and Senate. This allows for information discussed within each committee to be disseminated to the graduate student body through each Senator. This process provides the most direct and concise method for the distribution of pertinent information to all graduate students at Kent State University, and allows graduate students to be visible in the Kent State University Community.

Active Committees with Graduate Student Representation 2018-2019 AY:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Name</th>
<th>Primary Graduate Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Committee for Academic Assessment</td>
<td>Timothy Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee</td>
<td>Sarah Sternbach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee on Administrative Officers</td>
<td>Mark Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Policies Council</td>
<td>Antonina Pakhalkova Mohamed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Senate</td>
<td>Mark Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercollegiate Athletics Committee</td>
<td>Chris Willer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Libraries Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Annaleise Lessick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Joud Roufael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Health Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Temporarily Inactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Media Board</td>
<td>Nicolle Peronne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Tierra James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Diversity Action Council</td>
<td>Greta Babakhanova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Diversity Action Council</td>
<td>Greta Babakhanova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Teaching Council</td>
<td>Timothy Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Accessibility Committee</td>
<td>Alex Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Center Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Kayla Cagwin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Matter of note regarding Committee Representation:

As per the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws, all Senators are to serve on at least one GSS affiliated committee per Academic Year. These committees can include temporary or permanent Graduate Student Senate committees, or any University Committee that includes a graduate student representative.
**INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARD**

The GSS International Travel Award (ITA) is a competitive award that offers up to $1,500 for travel outside of the contiguous United States and Canadian provinces and territories not adjacent to Ohio. The ITA is offered for Fall, Spring, and Summer travel.

This year, there were two application periods in which Full- and part-time graduate students whose departments are in good standing with GSS were able to submit an ITA application. The purpose of the award is to promote the professional and academic development of Kent State University’s graduate student population, to support diversity by giving students the opportunity to experience foreign cultures, and to extend Kent State University’s recognition on an international level. Funding supports individuals presenting, performing, or actively participating at professional conferences, competitions, festivals, performance tours, internships, or workshops related to their academic program or specialized interests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Period</th>
<th>Total Complete Applications</th>
<th>Funded Applications</th>
<th>Total Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring/Summer 2019</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer/Fall 2019</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$30,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>$42,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Matter of note regarding the ITA: As this was the first academic year in which there were only two funding periods, the Graduate Senate is advised to consider the logistical impact of having one award period span two academic years (Summer/Fall 2019 award period). Students who have been accepted for both a Summer and Fall semester conference presentation will be limited to only applying for one of these conferences, even though they take place in different academic years.
Ahmed Bedeir
Modern and Classical Languages
Internship
Switzerland

Anuj Gurung
Political Science
Conference Presentation
Portugal

Ian Farnkopf
Biomedical Sciences
Conference Presentation Czech Republic

Diana Pemberton
Art
Other
Mexico

Hyunjae Jeong
Computer Sciences
Other
Australia

Irvin Cardenas
Computer Sciences
Conference Presentation New Zealand

Golam Mustafa
Physics
Conference Presentation
Peru

Mustafa Aydogan
Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences
Conference Presentation
Italy

Nicolle Simonovic
Psychological Sciences
Other
Israel

Meagan Smith
Art
Other
Japan

Michael Nycz
Physics
Conference Presentation
Greece

Michelle Rivers
Psychological Sciences
Conference Presentation
France

Mirjeta Pasha
Mathematics
Conference Presentation
Spain

Mona Matar
Mathematics
Conference Presentation
Spain

Pallavi Aurora
Psychological Sciences
Conference Presentation
France

Paul Geis
Foundations, Leadership, and Administration
Conference Presentation
Germany
Funding Increases for the International Travel Award:

In the Fall of 2018, President Beverly Warren made good on her commitment to help increase University funding for graduate student academic and professional development. This took the form of a $100,000 annual increase to the overall funding of the Senate, which was used to increase the number of competitive award given by the Senate. As a result, the Graduate Student Senate was able to increase the total number of International Travel Award granted in the 2018-2019 AY by 20%, with a total of 29 graduate students receiving ITA funds during this academic year.

Sebiha Balci
**Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences**
Conference Presentation
Netherlands

Keshav GC
**Chemistry & Biochemistry**
Conference Presentation
Poland

Kathryn Hannum
**Geography**
Conference Attendance
Spain

Karin Maria Nylocks
**Psychological Sciences**
Conference Presentation
France

Samuel Yocca
**Foundations, Leadership, and Administration**
Internship
Bulgaria

Kumudie Shamala Jayalath Arachchige
**Chemistry & Biochemistry**
Conference Presentation
Poland

Runa Koizumi
**Liquid Crystal Institute**
Workshop Participation
Germany
Domestic Travel Award

The Domestic Travel Award (DTA) is a noncompetitive award that supports academic presentation from Kent State University graduate students. Students who apply for and receive the award are required to present research (oral, poster, or roundtable) and must travel within the continental United States and Canadian Provinces adjacent to the continental US. Full and part-time graduate students whose departments are in good standing with GSS are eligible to receive one DTA per academic year. Students can apply the award every semester, but priority will be given to students who have not received a DTA in the previous semester. Additional awards for previously awarded students, will be chosen in a second round of selection, based on availability of funds. The award is disbursed at a flat rate of $300, minus any taxes based on the student’s residency status, after successful completion of the reimbursement packet showing proof of presentation and attendance.

Thanks to the generous support of and President Warren and Research and Sponsored Programs (RASP), the DTA was increased to $500 per awardee for Fall 2018 through Summer 2019.

Domestic Travel Award Metrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Applicants</th>
<th>Total Awardees</th>
<th>Funded Awardees</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2018</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>$30,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2018</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>$69,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>In progress</td>
<td>$95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$44,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$208,000</strong>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Students eligible for the award.
2 Students who successfully submitted reimbursement packet.
3 The total award for academic year 18-19. The sum does not include summer 2018.
### Domestic Travel Award Metrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Applicants</th>
<th>Total Awardees</th>
<th>Funded Awardees</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer 2018</strong></td>
<td>95</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>$30,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>138</td>
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<td>138</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 2019</strong></td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>In progress</td>
<td>$95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer 2019</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$44,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

- Students eligible for the award: 1
- Students who successfully submitted reimbursement packet: 2
- The total award for academic year 18-19. The sum does not include summer 2018.

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**2018 - 2019 | GSS ANNUAL REPORT**

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**PG. 13 / DOMESTIC TRAVEL AWARD**
TOTAL NUMBER OF Awardees, AY 18 - 19

- Anthropology: 6
- Architecture: 2
- Art: 8
- Biological Sciences: 33
- Biomedical Sciences: 30
- Business Administration: 12
- Chemistry: 14
- Biochemistry: 11
- English: 6
- Computer Sciences: 19
- Environmental Science: 20
- Geography: 20
- Health Sciences: 19
- History: 18
- Health Sciences & Education: 16
- Philosophy: 5
- Linguistics: 5
- Modern & Classical Languages: 3
- Music: 3
- Political Science: 15
- Public Health: 26
- Sociology: 8
- Teaching, Learning, & Curriculum: 17
The Special Contingency Award (SCA) is a competitive award that was newly created to offer students funding for active dissemination of one’s primary graduate work that does not fall within the purview of the two other GSS travel awards (ITA and DTA). Its application availability and review follow the schedule of GSS general meeting. The award is dependent on student’s budget up to $1,500. Final amount will be determined by SCA Review Committee. Funding will be based on availability of funds and will be first-come, first-served.

Special Contingency Award Metrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Total Applicants</th>
<th>Total Awardees</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 29 students applied, with 11 awardees totaling $12,000.

1 Students eligible for the award.

Fall 2018 awardees

Nicolle Simonovic
Psychological Sciences ($1000)

Louisa Catalano
Mathematics ($500)

Justine DeFrancesco
Teaching, Learning and Curriculum ($1500)

Srijana Bhandari
Chemistry and Biochemistry ($850)

Paula Castellano
Music ($650)

Tien Hong Stanley
Psychological Sciences ($1500)

Spring 2019 awardees

Elizabeth Aulino
Biological Sciences ($1100)

Alex Colucci
Geography ($200)

Karla Rodriguez
Biological Sciences ($200)

Manasi Agrawal
Biomedical Sciences ($530)

Rachel Steele
Health Sciences ($310)

Winnie Bush
Foundations, Leadership, and Administration ($1230)

Sarah Mohler
English ($930)

Alicia Hall
Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences ($1500)
The GSS maintains a membership in the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students (NAGPS). This permits us to foster a culture of citizenship amongst the larger graduate student community. The NAGPS provides a valuable source of information and networking opportunities for graduate students. We have sent representatives to a number of NAGPS events this year, including the national conference held at the University of Arkansas, and the Legislative Action Days (LAD) events held each semester in Washington, D.C.

Reports from the national conference indicate that Kent State graduate students are as engaged with their university, if not more so, than our peers and emphasis was placed on the value of a strong relationship between graduate student organizations such as the GSS and the administration for the benefit of graduate students and the university at large.

The LAD events provide advocacy training and opportunities for graduate student representatives to discuss issues affecting graduate students with congressional staff. However, NAGPS channels alone are not an effective means of advocating for Kent State graduate students, especially given Ohio’s unique stance on graduate student labor. Based on best practices learned through LAD events, the GSS will focus future efforts on building long term relationships with legislators at the state and local levels. This is not only more cost effective, but will help build relationships with other graduate programs throughout the state. These efforts will be in parallel with Kent State’s own legislative efforts.

Research Award

The GSS Research Award is a competitive award that funds graduate student research. All graduate students from departments in good standing with the GSS are eligible to apply for the award, which is offered in both the Fall and Spring semesters. It is one of the principle ways that the GSS reinvests in graduate students and their research.

This year we were able to award a total of 60 Research Awards, more than the past two years combined. This was made possible due to generous support from President Warren and RASP. While we were able to fund a record number Research Awards, we also set records for the number of rejected applications. Those who received Research Awards are but a small number of the thousands of graduate students doing excellent research here at Kent State. The research subjects reflect the impact that Kent State graduate students make in their fields and within our community. Subjects include the effects of the opioid epidemic, advances in liquid crystal technology, studies of cultural identity, and prehistoric ballistics. The work that is being done by these graduate students epitomizes the distinct character of Kent State.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Number of Awards</th>
<th>Sum Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F16 – S18</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2018</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>$38,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>$64,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total F18 – S19</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>$103,313</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Life as a graduate student continues to be difficult in a number of ways. Graduate students are at an elevated risk of depression and other mental illnesses, are often overworked and always underpaid. Graduate students provide an easy source of labor in a time when the university faces recurring budget cuts. Policies affecting graduate students are implemented differently in each department, with regulations that are enforced heterogeneously across the university. Often graduate students do not know what conditions are like outside of their department, and have come to accept the status quo as a fact of graduate student life. This status quo includes food insecurity for the graduate students who are paid well below the poverty level, enthusiasm exploited for unpaid labor and a culture that breeds depression and burn out. Events such as “graduate student appreciation week” are a nice token, but true graduate student appreciation will only come from a living wage and healthy working conditions.

## General State of Graduate Students

Life as a graduate student continues to be difficult in a number of ways. Graduate students are at an elevated risk of depression and other mental illnesses, are often overworked and always underpaid. Graduate students provide an easy source of labor in a time when the university faces recurring budget cuts. Policies affecting graduate students are implemented differently in each department, with regulations that are enforced heterogeneously across the university. Often graduate students do not know what conditions are like outside of their department, and have come to accept the status quo as a fact of graduate student life. This status quo includes food insecurity for the graduate students who are paid well below the poverty level, enthusiasm exploited for unpaid labor and a culture that breeds depression and burn out. Events such as “graduate student appreciation week” are a nice token, but true graduate student appreciation will only come from a living wage and healthy working conditions.
The Graduate Research Symposium is an event hosted by the Graduate Student Senate every spring semester, which features oral, poster, and fine arts presentations and performances of graduate students from every discipline at Kent State University. Faculty and graduate students serve as judges for groups of presentations sharing similar themes or representing common areas of study. The symposium is concluded with an awards luncheon, which features a keynote address and presentation of awards to the winning graduate students. Each awarded graduate student receives an award certificate and a monetary prize.

The symposium offers benefits for students with any range of presentation experience and skills. For those with minimal presentation experience, the symposium provides an opportunity to speak about research and receive interdisciplinary peer and faculty feedback. The multidisciplinary nature of the event is one of its key features of the symposium; GSS is dedicated to fostering the multidisciplinary nature of the event, welcoming all forms of scholarship, from empirical research to works of art.

2019 Graduate Research Symposium:
This year, I kept the two-day Symposium that Betsy Melick pioneered in the 2018 Graduate Research Symposium, and I invited an internationally-acclaimed performer, Tayo Aluko, to be our Keynote Speaker for the event. Selecting an international speaker greatly added both to the integrity of the theme, which focused on interdisciplinary and global communities of research, and to the quality and quantity of performances and presentations during the two-day event.

The 34th Annual Graduate Research Symposium, “Our Communities of Research” took place on 4-5 April 2019. In conjunction with Graduate Studies’ Graduate Student Appreciation Week, the 2019 Graduate Research Symposium offered students experience in presenting and many social opportunities, including our gala night, which featured fine arts performances, a special performance from our Keynote Speaker, and refreshments with a bar for students to enjoy, our Awards Luncheon, and a full performance of Call Mr. Robeson, given free-of-charge to all KSU community members on Friday evening.

Furthermore, 36 judges and 27 volunteers assisted in judging, moderating, and facilitating the event. Recruiting and maintaining judges for each session remains a perennial issue, as our judge registration had 17 fewer participants compared to the 2018 registration, though our volunteer registration increased by 16 compared to 2018 registration data.

In all, the event was highly successful, particularly considering our smaller graduate student population on campus and competing conferences and symposia, boasting 119 poster presentations, 82 oral presentations, and 4 fine arts performances. Our 2019 Graduate Research Symposium Presenter Registration had 325 submissions from nearly every college (Fig. 1) and various academic units on campus (Fig. 2).
Efferus String Quartet performing 4 April 2019

2018-2019 Executive Board of the Graduate Student Senate with Dr. Tankersley and Tayo Aluko
These presenter registration numbers are comparable with the 2018 Graduate Research Symposium, though our decline in graduate student enrollment is evident in participation for the event, particularly when compared to higher enrollment years of 2015 and 2016. We did have nine international visiting scholars present, and working with OGE to advertise the event will help include these scholars who have graduate student status but are often left out of graduate student listservs.

After allowing time for participants to withdraw or adjust their presentations, the 2019 Graduate Research Symposium Program listed 26 poster sessions, 2 fine arts sessions, and 20 oral sessions, all of which were comprised by over 200 graduate students and judged by 1-2 judges. The best presentation in each session was awarded a certificate and a $200 monetary award, which is double the award amount from previous years. In total, 48 students were selected as winners in their respective session, which resulted in awarding $9,600 directly to graduate students for presenting their research. The end of this report contains the list of winners, their session, and their presentation title.
PRESENTER REGISTRATION BY ACADEMIC UNIT

REGISTRATION BY ACADEMIC UNIT, AY 18 -19
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The 2020 Graduate Research Symposium will take place on 9-10 April 2020, and the reservations have been confirmed for spaces in the Kent Student Center. With Dr. Melody Tankersley and Kyle Reynolds, I’m pleased to announce both the national and Kent State Graduate Student Appreciation Week will be 6-10 April 2020, which will allow for continued collaboration and advertising for the event. The incoming Symposium Chair, Srijana Bhandari, will have more details about registration, schedule, and theme later in the planning process.

It was a pleasure to serve as the GSS Symposium Chair for the 2018-2019 academic year, and I am confident that our incoming chair will continue to preserve this event and space for celebrating and emphasizing graduate student work at Kent State University.
Poster Session 1: Art Exhibit, Theater, and Dance
3. Suwatana Rockland, Theater & Dance
   A comparison education between two countries

Poster Session 2: Architecture & Design
6. Hajar Rajab, Architecture & Environmental Design
   Floating lightweight concrete blocks made from dredged material

Poster Session 3: Biological Sciences
11. M Rumman Hossain, Biological Sciences
    Bacterial colonization on different microplastics in a local stream in Northeast Ohio

Poster Session 4: Biomedical Sciences I
17. Kristen Hirter, Anthropology
    Neurochemical Insights of Human Origins: A comparative analysis of dopaminergic innervation of the ventral striatum among primates

Poster Session 5: Biomedical Sciences II
21. Devanshi Mehta, Biomedical Sciences
    The importance of diurnal corticosterone rhythms in regulating mood

Poster Session 6: Communication, Information, and Computer Science
25. Pavan Poudel, Computer Science
    Adaptive versioning in transactional memories

Poster Session 7: Chemistry & Biochemistry I
28. Payel Datta, Chemistry & Biochemistry
    Liposomal Formulation of a Cholesterol-Conjugated Pt(IV) Prodrug of Cisplatin

Poster Session 8: Chemistry & Biochemistry II
33. Pramila Poudyel Ghimire, Chemistry & Biochemistry
    Development of nickel-incorporated MCM-41-carbon composites and their application in nitrophenol reduction

Poster Session 9: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology I
36. Christian Bullion, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
    Using Crowdsourced Data to Analyze Patterns in Odonate Phenology

Poster Session 10: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology II
42. Cynthia Perkovich, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
    Protein: carbohydrate ratios in the diet of Lymantria dispar (gypsy moth) affect its ability to digest tannins

Poster Session 11: Education, Health, and Human Services I
49. Shabnam Moini Chaghervand, Teaching, Learning, & Curriculum
    ESL teachers’ perception of being an effective instructor

Poster Session 12: Education, Health, and Human Services II
55. Stephanie Schafer, Lifespan Development & Educational Sciences
    The effects of caregiver-implemented strategies on child’s communication skills

Poster Session 13: Fashion
60. Michelle Park, Fashion
    Disrupting lymphedema through garment design and coloration

Poster Session 14: Geography
64. Sandra Bempah, Geography
    Monitoring Health Environments in Slums

Poster Session 15: Geology
73. Sydney Laubscher, Geology
    Manganese dissolution kinetics and uptake rates by red maple trees in soils

Poster Session 16: Liquid Crystal
74. Ahlam Nemati, Liquid Crystal Institute
    Amplification of chirality in axial chiral ligand by an enhancement of anisotropy factor of nanorods

Poster Session 17: Mathematics
79. Mirjeta Pasha, Mathematics
    Medical Image reconstruction by linearized Bregman iteration with non-negativity constraint

Poster Session 18: Neuroscience I
83. Zahra Ghasemahmad, Neuroscience
    Neuron structure and function in the diurnal cortex of male and female mice

Poster Session 19: Neuroscience II
87. Alyx Weaver, Neuroscience
    The Effect of Exercise on Brain Hemoglobin Expression in Rats

Poster Session 20: Nursing
94. Dawn Troup, Nursing
    Enhanced recovery after surgery for hysterectomy

Poster Session 21: Physiology I
96. Bryan Dowdell, Exercise Physiology
    Does high-cadence cycling improve emotional recognition in individuals with Parkinson’s Disease?

Poster Session 22: Physiology II
102. Meredith Paskert, Exercise Physiology
    Using resistance exercise as a countermeasure for safety learning in male and female mice

Poster Session 23: Psychological Sciences I
103. Jordan Adkins, Psychological Sciences
    Differences Exist for training intensity required

Poster Session 24: Psychological Sciences II
108. Carli Obeldobel, Psychological Sciences
    The relationship between mother-child attachment, depressive symptoms, and emotion regulation in middle childhood

Poster Session 25: Public Health and Education
112. Megan Anderson, Public Health
    Analysis of mental health referrals by university status and personality characteristics following Mental Health First Aid training

Poster Session 26: Sociology
119. Rusty Schnellinger, Sociology
    The role of neighborhood in non-medical use of prescription drugs

Fine Arts Performance Winners
Music
Efferus String Quartet with Maria Florez, Paula Castaneda, Irene Guerra, and Cristian Diaz
String Quartet #9 in E-flat major, op. 117
D. Shastakovich

Creative Writing
Bonné de Blas, NEOMFA
Excerpts from: La Ciudad de las Calles de Ramón y Cajal
ORAL PRESENTATION WINNERS

Oral Session 1: Anthropology, History, and Communications
Room 313

Michael Wilson, Anthropology, Does it stick? Using thermoplastic vs. organic-based adhesives in experimental prehistoric ballistics weaponry testing

Oral Session 2: Bioinformatics
Room 308

Nazar Hussein, Cellular and Molecular Biology, A novel Regulatory Role of TRAPPC9 in Osteoarthritis

Oral Session 3: Biological Sciences
Room 306A

William Feng, Biological Sciences, The role of the fatty acid transporter CD36 in the therapeutic resistance of HER2-positive breast cancer cells

Oral Session 4: Chemistry & Biochemistry
Room 313

Pramila Poudyel Ghimire, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Histidine-assisted nickel incorporation in MCM 41-carbon composite and its application in nitrophenol reduction compounds using (coumarin-4-yl)methyl-based phototrigger

Oral Session 5: Digital Humanities I
Room 310AB

Josiah Murphy (and Matt Wong), Teaching English as a Second Language, Want to buy some snake oil? Enhance listening and speaking fluency in the English as a second/foreign language classroom

Oral Session 6: English & Library Sciences
Room 318

Ted Daisher, Teaching English as a Second Language, Do the Authentic and Graded Reader Versions of Texts Differ in their Collocation Content?

Oral Session 7: Teaching & Pedagogy I
Room 315

Tracy Arner and Rachael Todaro, Educational Psychology, Flipping the Educational Psychology classroom: Investigating the relation between instructional design, learning strategy use, and retention

Oral Session 8: Higher Education in Global Perspective
Room 306B

Liangtao Ni, Cultural Foundations of Education, China’s “world-class universities” reform policy and the experiences of the Chinese higher education faculty in the American universities

Oral Session 9: Material Science I
Room 306C

Runa Koizumi, Liquid Crystal Institute, Swimming bacteria swirl around nematic attractors

Oral Session 10: Medical Humanities I
Room 309

Samantha Ortiz, Behavioral Neuroscience, Corticosterone administration after early adolescent stress selectively blocks stress-induced potentiation of morphine place preference in adulthood

Oral Session 11: Identity in a Global Context
Room 319

This special session will focus on “Communicating Gender in a Global Context: International Constructions of Identity.”

Nahla Bendefaa, Session Chair, Communication Studies

Oral Session 12: Materiality
Room 313

Brittany Hujar, Art History, Kozo Miyoshi: An Interpretation of Water Through Photography

Oral Session 13: Material Science II
Room 306C

Babak Salehi Kasmaei, Physics, Production and flow of dileptons from quark-gluon plasma

Oral Session 14: Medical Humanities II
Room 309

Erica Marshall, Exercise Physiology, Autonomic Modulation After High-Intensity Heavy Rope Exercise in Resistance-trained Individuals

Oral Session 15: Music & Ethnomusicology
Room 318

Andrew Blake, Music Theory, Voice-leading and implied tonality in quarter tone spaces: "Chorale", from Ives' "Three Quarter-Tone Pieces"

Oral Session 16: Political Science
Room 306A

Ikhsan Darmawan, Political Science, E-voting Adoption in Many Countries: A Review of the Literature

Oral Session 17: Student Voice after Parkland
Room 306B

Danielle Weiser-Cline, Cultural Foundations, I Am Not Throwing Away My Shot: Theatre Education, Political Engagement, and the #NeverAgain Movement

Oral Session 18: Environmental Science
Room 308

Lindsey Yazbek, Geology, Speciation and transport in a coal mine drainage impacted stream

Oral Session 19: Teaching and Pedagogy II
Room 315

Kayla Morehead, Cognitive Psychology, How much mightier is the pen than the keyboard for note-taking? A replication and extension of Mueller and Oppenheimer (2014)

Oral Session 20: Digital Humanities II
Room 310AB

Naser Al Madi, Computer Science, Poor Man’s Research Eye-tracking Kit
This year, the social-media presence of the GSS grew in multiple measures. We continued to increase our numbers of likes and follows in a linear way to increase our impact within and beyond the Kent State community.

Since the beginning of Fall semester, our social media pages have showcased the fine work being done by graduate students on our campus. We have shared 36 separate accomplishments of graduate students across a wide array of disciplines (Fig. 1), including 29 separate articles! The majority of these publications shared by GSS social media had graduate students as the principal author. This initiative has become a mainstay of our social media, and we look forward to its continued impact in coming years.

Finally, the GSS hosts several social events per semester. These Grad Fests are held on a Friday at one of the several bars in downtown Kent, and free pizza is offered along with the chance to win several free prizes. This year, we continued this great tradition, which allows for some much-needed social time; and we also brought in a professional trivia host, Cody Ruiz (Ph.D. student, Biomedical Sciences), to emcee one Grad Fest during the fall.

Figure 1: Breakdown of graduate student accomplishments shared during the 2018-2019 Academic Year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Twitter Follows</th>
<th>Facebook Likes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>662</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>716</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>860</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
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