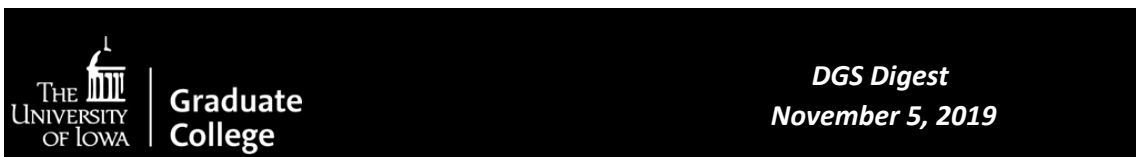


**From:** [Dangier, Wendy](#)  
**To:** [Directors of Graduate Studies](#)  
**Subject:** Graduate College - DGS Digest 11/5/19  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 05, 2019 10:22:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[First Gen Week.pdf](#)



## Announcements

A reminder that [Commencement registration](#) deadline is approaching. The doctoral and masters' ceremonies will be held on Friday, December 20, 2019.

The preliminary rounds for the Three Minute Thesis Competition were held in mid-October and the 16 finalists will compete on Friday, November 15 from 3-5 PM in the Art Building West. Please join us to hear these outstanding students compete in the final round. Prizes for first, second and third place will be awarded as well as an Audience Choice award. I hope to [see you there!](#)

The next DGS meeting is **Wednesday, November 6 from 3:30-5 PM in W401 PBB**. At this meeting the co-chairs of the Graduate College Strategic Planning Committee, David Cwiertny and Ann Ricketts, will be presenting to the group. The Committee's charge is to develop a strategic plan for the Graduate College as part of the broader University wide effort in strategic plan development for 2021-2026.

This is 1stGen Week and events are taking place across campus in support of these underrepresented students. Two events opportunities are detailed on the attached flyer. Perhaps you will see Dean Keller, a first generation graduate student, on the West Portico steps of the Old Capitol at 12:30 on Friday taking part in the 1stGen Photo.

Best regards,

Steve

Steve Varga  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Student Development

## Events

### **Commencement for Summer & Fall Degree Applicants**

**Registration Deadline Wednesday, November 20** – Summer and fall degree applicants are eligible to participate in the Fall commencement ceremony provided they register by the deadline of **November 20, 2019**. Registration is available [here](#). The ceremony will be held immediately before the University Holidays in Hancher Auditorium on **Friday, December 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm**. (As a reminder, Fall graduates are not eligible to participate in the Spring commencement ceremony.)

Apparel for graduates and participating faculty must be placed no later than **Wednesday, November 20**. Apparel is not arranged through the IMU Bookstore but must be rented from [Herff Jones](#) by Wednesday, November 20, 2019.

### **Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Final Competition**

**Friday, November 15, 3:00-5:00 pm, 240 Art Building West** – The University of Iowa's Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition challenges graduate students to clearly and concisely articulate complex research to non-specialist audiences. The final competition is on Friday, November 15, 3-5pm at Art Building West. There will be prizes awarded for the first place contestant, honorable mention, and a "People's Choice" winner selected by audience ballot. This event is free and open to the public. Read more about the competition [here](#).

### **Upcoming DGS Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 6, 3:30 pm, W401 PBB** – The next Directors of Graduate Studies meeting is on Wednesday, November 6. Please find the agenda and agendas from past meetings [here](#).

## Updates

### **Graduate College Strategic Plan**

The Graduate College is in the process of drafting a collegiate strategic plan. View our [website](#) to find information about the strategic plan process and the steering committee, co-chaired by Professor David Cwiertny and Senior Assistant Vice President for Research Ann Ricketts.

## Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

### **Graduate College Funding Resources**

The Graduate College provides a wide variety of financial assistance to help masters and doctoral students meet educational, living, and professional development expenses. We provide close to 20 different [internal fellowship opportunities](#) and staff support for students seeking external grants and fellowships. The Graduate College also partners with the Graduate Student Employment Committee, which provides recommendations to University leadership on matters related to employment benefits. The current graduate employment agreement contains information on graduate assistant rights and benefits. If you have any questions, please contact us at [grad-fellowships@uiowa.edu](mailto:grad-fellowships@uiowa.edu) or call Associate Dean Shelly Campo (335-2136) or Executive Director of Operations Donna Welter (335-2145).

## Resources

### **Resources for Student Parents**

Some students at Iowa are also parents, and UI Family Services can help them by providing support related to child care, lactation rooms, and other needs. Please review and share the [programs](#) provided by UI Family Services to help student parents succeed. Contact [familyservices@uiowa.edu](mailto:familyservices@uiowa.edu) or visit the [University Human Resources site](#).

### **Graduate Student Development**

This fall, Jennifer Teitle, Assistant Dean for Graduate Student Professional Development, is offering consultations with faculty members to discuss graduate student development opportunities including:

- Preparing PhD students for multiple career pathways
- LinkedIn for Academics, including helping graduate students stay connected and building a department LinkedIn
- Integrating professional development into departmental curriculum

- Grant opportunities for advancing graduate student professional development.

Appointments with Jen can be made directly through this [link](#) or on the [UI Grad Success page](#).

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