Graduate News

Office of Graduate Studies, Old Dominion University

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The Teacher Immersion Residency Program provides both undergraduate and graduate students an excellent opportunity to begin a career as a teacher.

The Teacher Immersion Residency Program is a partnership between Norfolk and Portsmouth public schools, as well as Old Dominion University’s Darden College of Education. The program was awarded a federal grant in 2009, and saw its first cohort graduate in the summer of 2011. Those graduates are now teaching in public schools throughout Norfolk and Portsmouth.

“The grant is a unique collaboration of key stakeholders in Hampton Roads to improve the quality of teaching, increase teacher retention, and improve student achievement in high-need secondary schools in the region,” says Dr. Sharon Judge, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies in the Darden College of Education.

Students accepted into the program are compensated with a full tuition waiver, a laptop computer, and a $25,500 stipend for the year. This is on top of the hands-on mentorship experience provided through the program.

“I think the fact that I get an entire year student-teaching internship is the best thing any program could do for me,” says Dana Olson, who is currently in her final semester of the training program. Olson loves her experience with the program, “I am observed constantly by my various mentors and I am getting constant feedback and advice.”

This year VCGS decided to place a special emphasis on the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in an effort to further the importance of these fields, and make Virginia a global competitor in the information age.

Old Dominion students in attendance presented posters that ranged in topics from dental hygiene to modeling and simulation. Lydia Wigglesworth-Ballard, a PhD candidate in the College of Health Sciences, was truly honored to be part of the experience. “It gave me the opportunity to meet and share experiences with graduate students from other universities,” said Wigglesworth-Ballard.

For a complete list of the ODU students presenters, please see the back of the newsletter.

Office of Graduate Studies
**Important Dates For Graduate Students:**

**GSO Meetings:**
- March 15, 11:30 am James/Lynnhaven Rm.
- April 19, 11:30 am U Center Conf. Rm.

**GSO Events:**
- March 19: YNot Pizza Fundraiser
- March 30: ODU Day at Richard Bowling
- April 13: Relay for Life Participation

**PFF Workshops**
- “The Academic Job Search: Discipline Specific Issues”
  - When: March 23, 12 pm -2 pm
  - Where: Potomac York River Rm.

**Graduate Roundtable For Arts and Letters**
- When: March 30, 3 pm -5 pm
- Where: Burgess Room, BAL 9024
- Topic: Professional Conferences

**Master’s and Doctoral Reception**
- May 2, 5:30 p.m. Baron and Ellin Art Galleries
- RSVP by April 25
- (757) 683.3097 or odualumni@odu.edu

**Did you know?**
- The number of jobs requiring Master’s and Doctoral degrees will increase by 2% every year for the next six years.

**Graduate Funding**

- **Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Scholarship**
  - Eligibility: Active Phi Kappa Phi members in post graduate or professional studies
  - Award: $500 to 140 students
  - Due/Website: April 15, 2012, www.phikappaphi.org

- **Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship**
  - Eligibility: Phi Kappa Phi members starting graduate studies. No more than 9 credits by due date
  - Award: $5,000 to 51 students and $15,000 to 5 students
  - Due/Website: April 15, 2012, www.phikappaphi.org

- **Institute for Learning in Retirement Graduate Scholarship Award**
  - Eligibility: All students currently enrolled in an MA program.
  - Award: $1,500 per semester, to one student.
  - Due/Website: June 1, 2012, http://www.oduilr.com/

**Office of Graduate Studies**

Old Dominion University
210 Koch Hall
Norfolk, VA 23529
(757) 683-4885
officeofgradstudies@odu.edu

ODU graduate student Nicholas Benson compiled and edited this newsletter with help from Dr. Brenda Neumann Lewis and the staff of the Office of Graduate Studies. You can contact Nicholas at nbenson@odu.edu