Message from the Dean

DR. MARY FARMER-KAISER

Last Friday, the Grad School launched the University’s 125th Anniversary Academic Lecture Series by welcoming Dr. Christine Pfund from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to campus. In addition to delivering a keynote lecture, she spent time with grad faculty and with Ph.D. students who are part of the University Fellows Community.

In each setting, Dr. Pfund encouraged us to reflect on how we identify, prioritize, and ask for what we need. Her questions seemed simple but in each setting they revealed that, so often, we are not on the same page.

Communication can be hard. Aligning expectations can be hard. Asking for what we need can be hard. And mapping out a network of mentors to support our academic and professional needs can be hard too. Yet, all of these often-tough-tasks are essential to success in grad school.

We’ve included in the pages ahead resources from Dr. Pfund that can guide you in articulating your needs and in working to create a constellation of mentors to support your academic and professional success. I hope you (grad students and mentors) will give them some thought!

Happy reading!
Dr. MFK

“While the past century and a quarter have been monumental, I believe strongly that our best days are yet come.”

DR. E. JOSEPH SAVOIE
UL Lafayette President
Using the Science of Mentorship to Advance the Mission of Service, Vision, and Leadership in Louisiana
Christine Pfund, Ph.D.
Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison

National Academies Consensus Report: The Science of Effective Mentorship in STEMM
- Online guide: https://www.nap.edu/resource/25568/interactive/

Mentorship Education Curricula for Mentors and Mentees:
(You'll need to create a log-in to download the free materials.)

Online self-study for the mentors of undergraduates:
https://www.ctsi.umn.edu/education-and-training/mentoring/mentor-training

Individual Development Plans, Mentoring Compacts and Mentoring Maps:
https://www.nap.edu/resource/25568/interactive/tools-and-resources.html#section2

Culturally Aware Mentoring Resources:
https://cimerproject.org/culturally-aware-mentoring-resources-2/

Attributes for Effective Mentoring with table of mentor roles:
# Identifying, Prioritizing, and Communicating Your Needs

**Instructions:**

1. Check the box next to the roles you currently need your mentor to play.
2. Circle the 3 roles that are priorities for you at this point in your career.
3. Choose one of the 3 circled roles and write down how you could ask for your mentors to play that role, or play it more effectively.
4. Practice what you would say to your mentor with a partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Check for Roles Currently Needed</th>
<th>Roles Mentors Can Play Across 5 Domains* of Attributes Needed for Effective Mentoring Relationships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Skills</td>
<td>Help me develop research skills specific to my area of focus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Help me become a better science communicator (presenting and writing)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Help me learn how to collaborate effectively</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Help me write grant proposals and seek other funding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interpersonal Skills</td>
<td>Work with me to define and align the expectations we have for our relationship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide me with constructive feedback</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Communicate honestly and build a trusting relationship with me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial Skills</td>
<td>Help me build my research self-efficacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Help me build my career self-efficacy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Help motivate me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Diversity Skills</td>
<td>Help me develop a sense of belonging in my program/department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Be open to conversations about diversity and how it impacts my training experience</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Help me address issues of bias and stereotype threat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship Skills</td>
<td>Foster my independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Help me network (colleagues, funding sources, stakeholders)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Help me find ways to better balance my work and personal life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Help me navigate and explore career options</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Upcoming Events in October**

**Mondays - Wake Up and Write!**
Every Monday morning when the University is open, grad students and faculty write, read, and think at the Alumni Center Board Room from 8:30-10:30 a.m. The Grad School provides the coffee, breakfast treats, and quiet. You provide the focus. Parking is easy. No registration is required.

**10/5 - Spill the Beans**
Join us for a cup of coffee (on us!) at Rêve Coffee Lab (downtown) at 3 p.m. and conversation with inspiring people in our grad education community. Each month we invite a new special guest. No presentation, only open dialogue. Hear their story and ask questions as they “spill the beans” about how they got their start, why they love what they do, how they stay focused and inspired, and much more. No registration required.

**10/10 - Money Matters: Family**
Join us in HLG 315 for lunch at 12 p.m. to learn from Dr. Brian Bolton during a Money Matters program focused on grad students with dependents. **Registration required.**

**10/18 - Manuscript Workshop for Students**
Join us online from 10-11 a.m. for an intro to what to expect and how to prepare when submitting your defended manuscript to the Grad School for review and final approval. Register in advance to get the Zoom link.

**10/19 - Charting Our Vision Together: Graduate School Alumni Chapter Kickoff**
The Alumni Association and the Grad School are mapping out a vision for a new alumni chapter for our graduates. If you’re already a Grad School graduate, join us at the Alumni Center on Thursday, October 19, 4-6 p.m. to create a vision board for yourself and to help us create one for this new joint initiative. **Registration required.**

**10/20 - Grad Bingo**
BINGO is back! We're celebrating Homecoming with a night of free food, great prizes, and fellowship at Grad Bingo Night! Partners and families are welcome. The fun begins in HLG 147 at 5 p.m. **Registration required.**

**10/25 - 3MT Info Session**
Get all the details for this year's Three Minute Thesis Competition on Zoom at 3 p.m. We'll go over all the basics, including competition rules, tips and strategies. Register in advance to get the Zoom link.

**10/26 - Money Matters: Roth IRA**
Dr. Brian Bolton will lead us for another Money Matters program focused on setting up a Roth IRA. Yes, you really can set one up now! Join us for lunch to learn more in Dupré Library 221 for lunch at 12 p.m. to learn more. **Registration required.**

**10/31 - Lunch and Learn - CVs and Resumes**
It may be Halloween but there’s nothing spooky about resumes and CVs. Join us for lunch at 12 p.m. in Dupré Library 221 to learn the difference between the two and to get some tips for creating and revising your own.
One of our very own graduate students, Faryal Atif, has been crowned 2023 Homecoming Queen!

Faryal is an outstanding grad student who consistently goes the extra mile for UL Lafayette. As the president of the International Student Council, GSO Rep, and a dedicated student pursuing a M.A. degree in English, she actively participates in numerous campus events, demonstrating unwavering dedication in all her roles.

Thanks, GSO, for nominating Faryal!

All Things
how to survive grad school online

1. Include your people.
2. Establish a schedule.
3. Know your learning style.
4. Set realistic goals.
5. Get your timing right.

Dynamic Presentation: How to Engage Audiences at Conferences, in the Classroom, and Beyond!

NCFDD Webinar
Tuesday, October 24 at 1-2 p.m. CST
Presenter: Marnel Niles Goins, PhD, Marymount University

This online NCFDD presentation focuses on the importance of audience engagement for public presentations and provides strategies for capturing and keeping the attention of an audience in various contexts. Dr. Goins will provide recommendations for how to study an audience prior to a presentation, as well as suggestions for verbal and nonverbal communication strategies that engage an audience throughout the entire presentation.

Register at https://www.facultydiversity.org/webinars/dynamicpresentations.

Grad school = a massive amount of notes, and Evernote is one of the best apps for grad students to keep all of those pearls of wisdom in one place.

It’s easily searchable, notes sync across devices, and the notebook organization helps keep your proverbial ducks in a row. The best part for grad students on the go? Use the audio recorder to capture ideas for discussion, projects, and more.

Evernote
September Events Overview

We’d love to see you at our monthly events, but sometimes that’s just not possible. Here’s a brief recap of our recent events.

Lunch & Learn: NCFDD

Graduate students learned firsthand from Dr. Liz Skilton, Dr. Maria Seger, and Dr. Robert McKinney about ways to benefit from our institutional membership in the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity. Activate your FREE membership at http://www.facultydiversity.org/join by using your UL Lafayette email. Sign up by OCTOBER 4 for the next 14-Day Writing Challenge!

Money Matters: International Students

Grad students heard from Dr. Brian Bolton, Professor of Finance, and Dr. Rose Honegger, Associate Director of Global Engagement about preparing for income taxes, curricular practical training (CPT), optional practical training (OPT), retirement, and more. Some topics will be discussed in greater detail at future money matter events so be sure to join us next time.

Spill the Beans with Amanda Shuford Mayeaux, Ed.D., NBCT

Our first Spill the Beans guest was Graduate Council chair and Ed.D. graduate coordinator, Dr. Amanda Shuford Mayeaux. When Dr. Mayeaux was in 8th grade she participated in a program that taught teens how to use a college library and to research. One day she overheard two men engaged in a passionate argument about the details of the War of 1812. What struck her was that, despite their differences, they ended the discussion with smiles and a plan to meet again the following week. When she asked them what they did, they replied, "We are professors." From that moment, she knew she wanted to become a professor herself. Thanks for inspiring us with this story and more, Dr. Mayeaux!

Lunch & Learn: Climate Survey Findings

Dr. Emily Sandoz, chairperson of the University Committee for Graduate Student Success and Retention, and Chief Diversity Officer Kiwana McClung shared some initial findings from two climate surveys conducted in 2022-2023. Climate surveys are valuable tools for assessing perceptions and perspectives within an organization. The outcomes will pave the way for future improvements in our grad education community. Stay tuned for more news on this front.
On September 14th, the faculty in the Master’s in Athletic Training (MSAT) program were delighted to host potential students from Japan who came to discover more about UL Lafayette and the program. They had the opportunity to immerse themselves in our campus environment, visit clinical sites, and participate in classes to get a firsthand experience of what the program entails.

Faculty of the MSAT program are also thrilled to announce a new partnership with the Dance program within Performing Arts. They’re collaborating to benefit students in both programs. In this exciting venture, a select group of undergraduate dance students can schedule appointments with grad students in the MSAT program. They’ll provide guidance on injury prevention techniques, injury diagnosis, and care plans. It’s a wonderful opportunity for cross-disciplinary learning in our university community.

The Three Minute Thesis® competition celebrates the exciting research being done at UL Lafayette by grad students.

**GRAD PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT**

**Master’s in Athletic Training**

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**The Three Minute Thesis® competition**

Explain your research in **three minutes** (or less), in a language appropriate for a **non-specialist audience**, with only one static slide.

Up for the challenge? Learn more at the upcoming info session on Oct. 25.

**THE CHALLENGE?**

**The Three Minute Thesis® competition**

Celebrates the exciting research being done at UL Lafayette by grad students.

*The Challenge?*

**The Three Minute Thesis® competition**

Celebrates the exciting research being done at UL Lafayette by grad students.

*The Challenge?*
Looking Ahead to November

Learn more and register at gradschool.louisiana.edu.

11/1 - 3MT Workshop
11/2 - Spill the Beans
11/8 - Manuscript Workshop for Students
11/15 - Money Matters: Side Hustles
11/21 - 11/22 - 3MT Prelims
11/28 - Money Matters: Career Planning
11/29 - Lunch and Learn: Job Market Panel

Huge congratulations goes to our Grad Trivia winning team, Aquamatics! This team included four brilliant individuals who met that day for the first time. Not only did they forge new friendships, but they also showed an impressive command of trivia knowledge from birthday celebrations around the world to all things Barbie. Jonathan Chapman (Biology), Jessica Ojadi (Informatics), Fiyinfoba Ogunkeye (Informatics), and Gabriel Trahan (Computer Sciences) celebrated their win with an exclusive Dinner with the Dean as a well-deserved prize!

The Writing Lab

The newly opened Writing Lab welcomes students from all disciplines at any stage of the writing process! Visit Dupré Library 155A or book a virtual session to discuss writing, receive feedback and help, and take advantage of other services. Resources also available for those writing in English as a second language.
#ULGradGoodNews
Hey awesome grad students!
As you navigate your grad studies, generating new knowledge and creative works, we want to hear more about the good stuff. Tell us about something cool you did, a recent accomplishment, what your amazing colleague or mentor did, or even a happy moment during your grad journey.

Your stories inspire us, so don't hold back. Share the good, and let's celebrate together! Use [https://bit.ly/ULGradGoodNews](https://bit.ly/ULGradGoodNews) to tell us something good!

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**Tessa’s Good News**
I recently was able to attend the training course from the National Center for Marine Algae and Microbiota up at Bigelow Laboratories in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. My advisor, Dr. Stauffer, encouraged me last semester to put in an application and when I was accepted she worked with me to find a way to pay for everything so I could attend. It was one of the best experiences of my life. For 10 days I was in a lab being taught by some of the best phytoplankton taxonomists in the world about how to identify different phytoplankton species. That course opened my eyes to how much we know and still don't know in my field, and it has made me even more excited to work on my master’s degree. I am so grateful to have had this opportunity, now time to share my new knowledge!


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**Save the Date**
We look forward to our Doctoral Hooding Ceremony -- a celebration of the significant scholarly contributions that our graduating doctoral students have made over the last several years at UL. Put it on your calendar now!

**Thursday, December 14th**
**Cajundome Convention Center**
Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments at 6:00 p.m.
Ceremony at 7:00 p.m.

**Grad Education in the News**

Important Dates and Deadlines

10/10 - B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration 125th Anniversary Academic Lecture at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom

10/12 - 10/13 - Fall Break

10/16 - 10/27 - Spring Advising

10/18 - Manuscript Workshop for Students at 10 a.m.

10/24 - Ray P. Authement College of Sciences 125th Anniversary Academic Lecture at 3:30 p.m. in the Oliver Hall Auditorium (Room 112)

Key Resources for Grad Students

**Campus Cupboard** supplies free, nonperishable items to meet students’ temporary food needs. Location: 210 E. St. Mary Blvd

**Career Closet** provides students with free, gently used professional clothing items for interviews, career fairs, and other professional networking events. Location: 210 E. St. Mary Blvd

**Career Services** provides services to students in career planning, development, and job-seeking strategies. Location: Agnes Edwards Hall, Room 104

**The Counseling and Testing Center** offers free counseling, crisis intervention, and short-term psychotherapy for individuals, couples, and groups. Location: Saucier Wellness Center, OK Allen Hall

**The Office of Disability Services** establishes eligibility and facilitates services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Location: Agnes Edwards Hall, Room 126

**Graduate Student Organization** advocates for all graduate students and offers funding to help offset the cost of research and travel. Location: gso.louisiana.edu

**The Writing Lab** (formerly The Writing Center) offers a writing community for students and faculty with a comfortable space where writers work with other writers. Visit to discuss writing, receive feedback and help, and take advantage of tutoring services. Location: Dupré Library First Floor