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- In FY15, more than $9,500 was awarded to faculty for supplemental travel awards.
- More than $3,000 was awarded to graduate students in FY15 for travel to conferences.
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For more information on ERGP travel policies and how to take advantage of these opportunities, visit engg.ksu.edu/ergp/resources/policies.html.
New leadership program for ENGG graduate students

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In collaboration with the Staley School of Leadership Studies and the Kansas Leadership Center, or KLC, the volunteer participants agreed to work with peers and professional leadership coaches, taking on challenges most important to them and moving beyond technical expertise to solve problems.

"Students learned about adaptive leadership competencies such as diagnosing a situation, managing self, intervening skillfully and how to energize others," said Lori Kniffen, adviser of academic programs at the Staley School of Leadership Studies at K-State.

Time commitment, following a kick-off session in early February, included one 90-minute cohort meeting in each February, March and April led by leadership studies faculty members; and one 30-minute phone call each of those months with a professional leadership coach.

"The faculty developed ideas around the theory of leadership, recognizing your own leadership challenge and charting progress on that challenge during the semester," Kniffen said.

The coaching sessions by phone were coordinated through the KLC in Wichita, which partners with colleges and universities in the state to provide leadership training and resources for the next generation of leaders.

"The (phone) coaching sessions have been the biggest benefit so far," said S M Shafiu Alam, electrical and computer engineering research assistant and project participant. "It has enabled me to develop a strong idea of the cross-disciplinary issues of leadership."

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Leadership class for graduate students

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Did you know that Leadership Studies is the largest minor for undergraduate students at K-State? What about the graduate students? As you can see on the previous article, the Staley School of Leadership Studies worked with the College of Engineering to develop a leadership skills extracurricular program for our graduate students in the spring of 2015 and efforts are underway to secure funding to continue this program in the spring of 2016.

Another opportunity for graduate students across campus to get more formal information about leadership is a new class offered by Leadership Studies, GRAD 801, Foundations of Leadership (Reference #17211). Offered on Monday evenings from 5:30 - 8:20 during the fall semester, Mary Tolar, director of the School of Leadership Studies, will integrate experiential, theoretical and applied learning on the subject of leadership that may be exercised from all positions within organizations and communities. Students will identify and address a leadership challenge that exceeds the boundaries of traditional disciplines in the hope of effecting change for the common good.

This is an outstanding opportunity for engineering graduate students to expand their professional development beyond their technical skills, and help them work with diverse teams and become leaders in their organizations. For more information, contact Lori Kniffen, Lkniffen@ksu.edu, 785-532-6085.

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Graduate program highlights

Associate Dean Noel Schulz works with the engineering Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC) to plan activities that promote a positive learning environment for engineering graduate students. This summer, the ERGP office coordinated several events for on-campus graduate students to encourage growth outside of the classroom and lab.

During the month of June, engineering grad students had the opportunity to tour the Phase IV construction site. Dave Fritchen, AEC/CNS professor and Phase IV project manager, conducted two tours just for these students. Tours were held June 10 and 18, and were attended primarily by civil engineering students.

Several grad students joined in on the fun of bowling at the Wabash Cannonbowl in the Union over lunch June 19. Several more participated July 16 at Little Apple Lanes off-campus, which hosts dollar night every Thursday, offering an opportunity for students who had never bowled to learn in a fun and encouraging environment.

Kiffnie Holt, insect zoo coordinator, treated grad students to a guided tour of the K-State Insect Zoo June 22. Scott McElwain, director of K-State Gardens, gave a guided tour and shared the gardens’ history with graduate students June 30. Both the gardens and insect zoo are considered hidden treasures of the K-State campus.

The ERGP office hosted two ice cream socials in the engineering atrium: June 25 featured “celebrity scoopers” Joe Harner, Ray Yunk and Don Gruebner, all department heads; July 23 featured Dean Darren Dawson as a celebrity scooper. Dean Carol Shanklin from the Graduate School attended the June social to network with students and faculty.

The ERGP office and GSAC are planning several events for graduate students this fall.

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Safety highlight

Low-occupancy restriction for Rathbone Atrium July 31, 2015 - Aug. 19, 2015

McCowGordon Construction will be completing work during August, critical to receiving a certificate of occupancy for the addition. During this period of time, July 31 - Aug. 19, the first floor of Rathbone and Fiedler halls will be restricted to a maximum occupancy of 30 people, and this is for fire and life safety reasons. All events and classes have been rescheduled or relocated during this time period.

Signage will be placed throughout the atrium and construction barriers will be installed. Please be observant of these items. As construction progresses through the atrium, barriers will move and accessibility to the atrium will change. It is recommended that all activities in the atrium be kept to a minimum.

Construction activities will begin with installation of storefront frames and glass along the third-floor railing on the east side of the atrium, July 31 – Aug. 14. Next, the atrium ceiling will be patched, finished and textured, Aug. 7 – 17. Lastly, the ceiling will be painted, Aug. 17 – 19. Cooperation during this disruption is appreciated.

For more information about the Phase IV expansion, visit the website engg.ksu.edu/phaseiv.
Videos of faculty development activities available on ERGP website

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Be sure to check out these videos and handouts. New videos will be added starting in September.

Meet our staff

Noel Schulz
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Editor
tamar@ksu.edu

Jeff Gibisch, engineering safety coordinator, organized an engineering faculty and staff ALICE training on best practices for dealing with an active shooter. Additional ALICE sessions will be held for engineering faculty, staff and graduate students in the fall semester.

We hope you had a productive summer, both professionally and personally. Our office is excited about the opportunities for 2015-2016, and working with our great ENGG faculty, staff and students.

Engineering Research and Graduate Programs
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Grad program—kstate_enggrad

For more information about these events, please visit engg.k-state.edu/ergp/events

ERGP Newsletter August 3, 2015

Upcoming events
8/6 — Title IX training
Union Big 12 Room, noon - 1:00 p.m.
8/12 — Title IX training
Union Big 12 Room, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
8/13 — Media review training
407 Hale Library, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.
8/18 — New faculty institute mixer
Union Forum Hall, 2:30 - 3:15 p.m.
8/19 — Orientation for all new graduate students
Union Ballroom, 9:15 a.m. - noon
8/19 — Library services and resources for graduate students
Leadership Studies Town Hall
2:30 - 3:15 p.m.
8/19 — K-State and Manhattan community services and resources fair for graduate students
Union Ballroom, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
8/20 — Orientation for new GTAs, GRAs, and GEs
Leadership Studies Town Hall
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
8/21 — Acclimating to U.S. graduate-level work
International Student Center
9:00 a.m. - noon
8/24 — Fall 2015 semester begins
8/26 — Hazard communication training
11 Edwards Hall, 11:00 a.m. - noon
9/1 — Back to school pizza party
All ENGG graduate students invited
ENGG atrium, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
9/7 — University holiday

Happenings in engineering for summer 2015

So with your travels and vacation over the summer, what things might you have missed? New college policies, searchable research keyword database, NSF CAREER proposals, new Phase IV classrooms and safety training to name a few. Here is a quick update to get you up to speed.

Two new college policies were announced during the summer (see my June 2 email) related to college/department/faculty distribution of indirect costs and department/faculty distributions of Global Campus and intercession course funding. During the 2015 summer semester, department heads worked with Dean Dawson and myself to develop these new college policies. If you have questions, please talk with your department head or one of us.

This spring we started an effort to develop an online keyword database for our engineering faculty and staff. The searchable database is available at https://keywords.engg.ksu.edu/ and will be released campus-wide and beyond in early September. With this database, colleagues across campus and from industry can find engineering faculty working in a specific area including keywords, a Web link and if included, short and long biographical sketches. Engineering faculty can update their keywords anytime at https://keywords.engg.ksu.edu/input/. It only takes about five minutes. If you haven’t entered your information, please do so before September 1.

Late July was very busy in our office as the College of Engineering submitted six NSF CAREER proposals. Shout out to Carole Lovin and Bethany Swinney in ERGP, and Effie Swanson in PreAwards for all their efforts to support our faculty in this process.

Our office is working with faculty and department heads on the transition of our video recording facilities from Rathbone to the new engineering building. Four new ENGG classrooms have been scheduled for spring semester 2016 with the following priorities: 1) staff-supported video recording, 2) faculty self-video recording and 3) other engineering classes without video recording needs. Senior Associate Dean Gary Clark worked with department heads and ERGP staff to move engineering classes across campus back into these new classrooms within the engineering complex.

This summer we also ramped up our activities in the environmental health and safety area. Jeff Gibisch, engineering safety coordinator, organized an engineering faculty and staff ALICE training on best practices for dealing with an active shooter. Additional ALICE sessions will be held for engineering faculty, staff and graduate students in the fall semester.

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