

GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWS

DECEMBER 2019

SIU
Southern
Illinois
University
CARBONDALE

Calendars & Events

Graduate School's Ugly Sweater Contest

December 3,
11 am – 1 pm
3rd Floor
Student Services Building

Final Exam Events – Take-a-Break Table

December 9 – 13,
9 am – 3 pm
3rd Floor
Student Services Building
Snacks & gifts for our
hardworking graduate
students!

Dates and Deadlines

December 1

Graduate Assistant Re-
Employment Notification:
Departments must notify
Graduate Assistants of a
decision whether to re-
employ as a Graduate
Assistant for Spring semester
2020.

Deadline date for Spring
2020 Graduate Assistantship
contracts due to Graduate
School.

December 6

Deadline to Graduate
School for December payroll.

December 14

Commencement –
Processional begins 1:45 pm



Graduate School Halloween Costume Contest

Graduate Saluki Stories Do What You Love!

Agriculture Students' Fascinating Research Work
<https://vimeo.com/371234679>



Kelsey(Smith)McAllister,
Master's student in [PSAS](#),
and **Yi-Chen Lee**, Ph.D.
student in [Agricultural
Sciences](#), supervised by [Dr.
Stella K. Kantartzj](#).

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT GRADUATE STUDENT LEARNING

The Graduate School has created a new webpage to bring together the links for resources for graduate students across campus. Please visit <https://gradschool.siu.edu/student-resources/>. Take a look at all the resource pages linked to this main page.

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT GRADUATE STUDENT LEARNING

If you are unable to locate the resources you need, contact the Graduate School at gradschl@siu.edu or call 618-536-7791.

Academic



Financial



Professional Development



Health/Wellness



Daily Life



Involvement



Safety



Legal



Miscellaneous



SPRING 2020 GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

The Graduate School will offer a **New Graduate Student Orientation** on Thursday, January 9, 2020, 1:00 – 2:30 PM in the Student Services Building room 150/160. All graduate students (new and returning) who would like to learn more about registration, graduate assistantships, travel support, graduation and other topics are welcome to attend. Students will receive an email invitation to this event.

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

REMINDER TO SUBMIT GA TIME LOGS MONTHLY

Graduate Assistants are required to complete a log of their work hours every month.

1. GA completes time log by the 3rd day of each month and submits to the appropriate supervisor in the hiring unit.
2. The supervisor should then sign the time log (by hand or electronically).
3. If submitted on paper, time logs should be scanned to submit electronically.
4. Name the saved logs using one of the following methods:
GA NAME-MONTH-YEAR or DEPT/SCHOOL-MONTH-YEAR (if several logs are saved in one pdf). Please do not combine logs from different months.
5. Submit time logs via email to GA-LOG-SUBMIT@SIU.EDU

THE HUMAN SUBJECTS OFFICE WILL BE HOLDING OFFICE HOURS STARTING 2020

The Human Subject Office will be holding regular office hours twice a week in 2020. The office hours will be for anyone with questions about a possible research study to conduct, the new HSC application, having never participated in human subject research, or an interest in learning more about research involving human subjects.

Office hours will be every Tuesday and Thursday starting January 14, 2020. Tuesday's office hours will be 9-11am; Thursday's office hours will be 1-3pm. If those times do not work for you, please feel free to email or call the Human Subjects Coordinator at siuhsc@siu.edu or 618-453-4534 to schedule an appointment as the HSC office will no longer be accepting walk-in meetings/appointments. All meetings/appointments must be scheduled with questions/concerns addressed during HSC office hours. There will be no office hours during finals week or breaks such as Spring, Summer and Christmas/New Year.



2020 SIUC Local 3MT Competition

Sponsored by the Graduate School,
Office of Vice Chancellor for Research, and
Office of Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



The Graduate School, Office of Vice Chancellor for Research, and Office of Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs will co-sponsor the 2020 SIUC Local 3MT (Three-Minute-Thesis) Competition. Active SIUC PhD and Professional Doctorate (Research) candidates who have successfully passed their confirmation milestone (including candidates whose dissertation is under submission) by the date of their first presentation are eligible to participate in 3MT competition. Graduates are not eligible. Three awards will be given:

- The first-place award: \$700 for travel to the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) Annual Meeting plus \$500 in cash
- The second place award: \$500 in cash
- The third place award: \$300 in cash

Important Dates:

- Submit the SIUC Local 3MT Competition Form with one PowerPoint slide to Mr. John Russell at johnprussell@siu.edu by 4 pm, January 24, 2020 (Friday).
- Students will make presentations on January 31, 2020 (time and location TBD).
- Winners announcement will be made on February 14, 2020. The 1st place winner is to represent SIUC to compete in the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) regional 3MT competition on April 3, 2020.

Please visit <https://gradschool.siu.edu/> for details.

3MT Competition Announcement

https://gradschool.siu.edu/common/documents/others/3MT/SIUC_Local_3MT_2020.pdf

3MT Submission

<https://gradschool.siu.edu/common/documents/others/3MT/SIUC-3MT-Form.pdf>

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE
GRADUATE SCHOOL

DISCOVER.
ENGAGE.
TRANSFORM.



Christiane Baigent, a doctoral student, has a National Institute of Justice grant to study the effects of high altitude on the decomposition of human bodies. Most studies of decomposition rates, to be used in forensic assessment of the time elapsed since death, have been at relatively low altitude. In those studies, it was clear that temperature played an important role in decomposition rate. However, previous studies have not examined the role of altitude, and hence availability of oxygen, in decomposition rate. Christiane's field research will be carried out at a forensic facility in Colorado. For more info, contact Christiane at Christiane.baigent@siu.edu

Jiaying Liu has just completed her PhD dissertation on the role of shaman-priests in maintaining ethnic identity of the Yi ethnic minority in southwest China. Over the decades, the Chinese government has had varying policies toward religion, and ethnic minorities within China, ranging from active suppression to careful encouragement as a means of economic development. Currently, aspects of Yi religion and ceremonialism are actively encouraged, to build a tourist industry. The Yi themselves see this as a way to maintain their ethnic distinctiveness and identity.



Jiaying Liu in a traditional Yi ceremonial costume



During her 16 months of field research, Jiaying became a quasi-apprentice of a Yi *bamo*, or shaman-priest (a role typically reserved for males though she is female), and studied the role of these shaman-priests in preserving what the Yi call "superstition". Jiaying was particularly interested in this research because she herself is of Yi ancestry, though she was raised in an urban, Han context. For more info contact Jiaying at Jiayingliu@siu.edu (Note: lots of colorful photographs from her field research).



History Graduate Student Association reports the following good news:

- **Geoff Lybeck** (PhD candidate) has an article accepted for publication in *Ohio History*.
- **Greg Carter** (PhD candidate) has an article accepted for the *Journal of Illinois History*.
- **Ben Bradley's** (M.A.) effort to record alumni histories during homecoming netted six oral interviews that will be edited into the "Saluki Stories" podcast Pinckney Benedict is producing.
- **Ben Bradley** (M.A.) and Joshua Cannon (M.A.) will be traveling to a conference in November to present their digital history collaboration with the SIU Miller's Grove archaeological site.
- Four graduate students will be presenting at this year's **Newberry Library conference**, a high for SIU's participation in the Newberry Renaissance Consortium.
- **Xiao Li** (PhD candidate)



Xiao Li was an invited plenary speaker at Oxford University. She also presented at Harvard University Medical School and the Library Company of Philadelphia.

(Left: Xiao Li gave a presentation at Harvard University)

Link to her prestigious conferences and presentations:

Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine

<https://www.chstm.org/profile/xiao-li>

Oxford University:

<https://talks.ox.ac.uk/talks/id/d3fafa81-c406-42a0-bfe1-f711b559446f/>

http://www.chinacentre.ox.ac.uk/am_event/christianity-medicine-women-and-translation-critical-perspectives-on-the-role-of-missionaries-in-china-and-the-us/

Harvard University:

<https://jashistofmed.files.wordpress.com/2019/09/jasmed-program-2.pdf>

Drexel University:

https://www.library.drexel.edu/news-and-events/news/libraries-news/2019/September/CHSTM_Fellows19-20/

Department of Mathematics



Porter Summers and **Menake Wijerathne** attended a two-week Summer School at the MSRI (Mathematical Sciences Research Institute), Berkeley, CA in June 2019.

Priyan De Alwis, Hadi Safari, Rukayya Ibrahim, and **Wiranthe Herath** (Math Ph.D. students) won the NSF travel support to attend STATMOS 2019 Workshop, Iowa, USA. The workshop invited young researchers and PhD students into the field of Spatial Statistics and develop collaborations.

Priyan De Alwis, Hadi Safari, Wiranthe Herath, B. L. K. Gunawardana, and **Qilun Luo** (Math Ph.D. students) had a poster presentation at the 2019 SIU Research Forum,

Priyan De Alwis and **Hadi Safari** (Math Ph.D. students) gave a talk at the 2019 annual meeting of the MAA.

Hadi Safari won the SIUC Graduate School Fellowship and two other travel grants to attend the iBRIGHT 2019 Conference and 55nd Summer Research Conference.



Finally, we would like to THANK those faculty, staff, and graduate students who attended the emergency meeting (held on 11/22/19) and those who sent their input by email. We value your insights regarding graduate applications and other issues related to graduate education at SIUC. We'll host a second meeting on Monday, December 2nd at 3:00 pm in the Student Services Building, room 150. We look forward to hearing additional perspectives at that meeting. Our goal is to analyze the causes of the decline in graduate student applications for admission, identify potential solutions, and estimate the resources needed to implement those solutions. Provost Komarraju has requested this information, and we'll be sending it to her as soon as possible.



Let's

Get

UGLY!

ROCK YOUR

UGLIEST SWEATER

at the Graduate School's

TACKY

SWEATER

PARTY



Tuesday, December 3

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

3rd Floor

Student Services Building

Ugliest Sweater Wins PRIZE!