Graduate Student Ambassador Program Kicks Off!

The University of Tulsa (TU) Graduate School kicked off its new Student Ambassador program this semester with seven ambassadors from departments across campus.

Jazzmin Wilson is working on a dual degree. She began her master’s in history in the fall and is in her second year of law school. She is also involved in TU Outlaws, the Black Law Student Association, and ImmLaw.

Leena Subhan Neyaz is a doctoral student from the Biological Sciences department. Leena also served on the Research Colloquium Planning Committee this year and is a past officer for the Graduate Student Association (GSA).

Emily Caselman completed her master’s degree in Anthropology at TU and is now working toward her master’s in Museum Science and Management. Emily is also involved in Lambda Al-

MSM Students Excited for Summer Opportunities

Museum Science and Management students Caitlin Barry, Emily Caselman, Emily Hammill, and Jenny Keller are enjoying several exciting opportunities this summer. Each of them have accepted internships at prestigious institutions around the world.

Caitlin Barry will intern at The Braid, Ballymena which is Northern Ireland’s new Museum and Arts Centre. The Braid is named after the river which runs through the town of Ballymena, this contemporary museum weaves together the history, art, and culture of Northern Ireland.

While interning at The Braid, Barry will have the exciting opportunity to be part of a team which will be working to launch *Kick the Dust*. This project will be delivered in partnership with National Museums Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland Screen Council, and Northern Ireland Museums Council.

This project also allows young people to connect with and enhance museum collections using an exciting mix of creative media and digital technologies. Activities include writing, casting, and directing their own films, working with heritage organisations to create apps and games, and using 3D scanners and printers as well as virtual reality and 3D filmmaking technology.
Staff Changes in the Graduate School

Some slight personnel changes have occurred in the Graduate School. The position of Administrative Assistant has been filled by our newest hire, Bonnie Medlicott-Benway.

Bonnie is a native New Yorker and moved to Tulsa about 25 years ago. Since then she has volunteered in local festivals and public school activities.

Bonnie graduated from Tulsa Community College with an Associates of Science degree and is a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Licensed. Prior to working with children as an Occupational Therapy Assistant she worked as an Executive Assistant for public and private energy companies.

Bonnie is a great resource for questions regarding things that take place in the Graduate School. You can reach the Graduate School at 618-631-2336.

Graduate Students Invited to Alumni Night at the Tulsa Drillers

TU Alumni Relations has extended an invitation for graduate students to join alumni at the Tulsa Drillers game on May 31 at 6 p.m. at ONEOK Field.

Cost is $30 per person and includes admission to the stadium and Tiki Deck, dinner, and soft drinks. Tickets may be purchased online.

This will be a fun night and a great way to meet TU alumni and learn about what they are doing now. For more information about the event email tualumni@utulsa.edu.

New graduate students: If you missed the mandatory workshops at orientation, you can make them up during Fall Orientation!

Fall Orientation
Thursday, August 16, 2018
Student Union, Great Hall B

To reserve your seat, please email grad@utulsa.edu.

Your 2018-2019 GSA Officers!

Melissa Miller (President) is a Tulsa native and a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology. Her research focuses on transitional stone tool industries and environmental modification in southern Africa. Her hobbies include reading and writing books and she is an avid horse racing and horror movie fan. Previously a GSA senator, this is her first year as an officer.

John Ostrander (Vice President) is originally from Reno, Nev., but moved to Oklahoma after separating from the U.S. Army in 1994. John attended Cameron University in Lawton and worked in chemistry research labs, served in the Oklahoma National Guard, and taught high school before starting his graduate work in chemistry at TU in 2014. John has two children, one in college and one going into 10th grade next year. He is a sports enthusiast, and may be seen on campus either at the fitness center or out preparing for the fall running season.

Sajith Kareepadath Sajeev (Treasurer) is pursuing his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. Sajith joined TU in 2013 for his master’s and has served in various student leadership positions on the NACE student chapter and was a student member in Indian Student Association. Sajith has also participated in various activities organized by GSA and is a recipient of GSA’s travel grant program. He appreciates GSA’s efforts to bring the student community together and hopes to increase GSA’s interaction with the student community. Sajith welcomes feedback and recommendations from the student community.

Yeshwanth Raj Rajkumar (Event Coordinator) was born and raised in Chennai, India, received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Anna University, Chennai and joined TU in Fall 2016 as a Master’s Graduate Research Assistant. He plans to continue with his Ph.D. program in Fall 2018. In his leisure time, Yeshwanth enjoys spending time with his friends. He also has interests in playing Cricket, Badminton, or Volleyball.

Chelsea Cogan (Secretary) is a fourth year clinical psychology doctoral student. Her research interests include treatment outcomes of evidence-based psychotherapies for PTSD and how to modify, disseminate, and implement these evidence-based psychotherapies to improve treatment for individuals. Prior to coming to TU, she worked at the National Center for PTSD in Boston, Mass. She is actively involved with the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS) and serves in many different roles within that organization. Outside of school, she enjoys attending concerts, spending time with her cats and dog, and reading.
Amrit Kaphle, a fifth year doctoral student in the physics department, was awarded the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Hands On Photovoltaic (PV) Experience (HOPE) summer fellowship.

Amrit’s faculty advisor, Dr. Parameswar Hari said this fellowship is a competitive proposal-based fellowship with only 13 students selected each year. “This is the first time a student from Oklahoma was selected for this fellowship! We are very pleased to have a student from the PV institute receiving this fellowship,” Dr. Hari said.

The fellowship involves two weeks of study and research in Golden, Colo. Working closely with PV scientists, technicians, and engineers. While at this fellowship, Amrit will be doing experiments on oxide-based thin film solar cells.

“I am very happy to receive this fellowship and excited to work at NREL,” Amrit said. “I have done lots of fabrication and characterization of nanostructured oxide-based solar cells in our lab. So, at NREL, I am interested in gaining experience with other new characterization techniques, which I have not done at our lab in Tulsa.”

Amrit will make several solar cells at TU to take to NREL for characterization and further study, which will have a great impact on his dissertation. He will also get a chance to learn fabrication of other types of solar cells such as Silicon, Perovskites, CdTe solar cells currently studied at NREL. The experience of working at the national lab offers the opportunity to enhance his skill and understanding in the field of photovoltaic technology.

“I hope the practical hands-on experience I gain from interacting with NREL scientists and graduate students from other universities at NREL will be very valuable for my future research work as an independent scientist. It will also be advantageous for our university because I can come back and apply my knowledge that I gain from NREL,” Amrit said.

Amrit is a recipient of the TU Bellwether Fellowship and has published four peer-reviewed journal articles and one book chapter and given six presentations at regional, national, and international conferences.

Ambassadors continued from page 1

Ambassadors help welcome students considering attending TU for graduate school by giving the students tours, answering questions, and helping with events such as Open House and Orientation. Ambassadors may also attend local recruiting events, as their schedules permit, to speak with current undergraduates or others considering pursuing a graduate degree.

Students interested in becoming a Graduate Student Ambassador apply during the fall semester and commit for the upcoming calendar year. Contact Caitlin-Getchell@utulsa.edu if you have questions about the program.
Barry will be contacting potential youth groups, assisting with set-up for project activities, project publicity, collating feedback, and distributing information about the project.

“I am extremely honored to work on this project as not only will it provide me with valuable experience of how a museum works but I am also part of a project which aims to develop the young people of Northern Ireland by providing them with unique access to collections of The Braid,” Barry said.

Emily Caselman will be interning at the Mammoth Site of Hot Springs, SD. This museum is unique in that the actual physical site is within the museum itself.

Caselman will be at the Mammoth Site from May 12 through Aug. 15, and she will work directly with visitors, teaching them about Paleontology, and the history of Mammoth Site, as well as what the staff do to preserve the site and remains. This will be done by leading tours through the bone bed and explaining to visitors the process of jacketing and removing the remains, as well as why this is done and how important it is to preservation.

Caselman will also have the opportunity to work on a display in the main exhibit area, where replicas of wildlife during the Pleistocene can be viewed, and teach paleontology classes to children.

“My professional goal is to work for the National Park Service on site preservation through partnerships with museums, and the education of the public. By interning at Mammoth Site, I will get to see first hand what it is like when a site and a museum work hand in hand for this common goal,” Caselman said.

Emily Hammill will spend June to mid-August, as one of eight fellows at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts. As the Exhibition Planning fellow with the Native American Fellowship Program, Hammill will assist the exhibition planning team on a range of special exhibitions, installations, and other projects while working with other departments within the Museum.

This internship will give Hammill hands-on experience and the opportunity to work with professionals outside the Tulsa area. The long-standing Peabody Essex Museum is known for their diverse collections and unforgettable exhibitions.

“I cannot explain how grateful I am to have a chance to learn all that I can about my future career field while I am there,” Hammill said. “I am very excited to be able to work closely with the museum staff and other fellows, while receiving invaluable guidance from such an amazing institution! Both Jenny Keller and I will be at the Peabody Essex Museum in different departments, so it’s great that I will have a familiar face there with me!”

Jenny Keller also received one of the eight fellowships at the Peabody Essex Museum this summer. As the Creative Services fellow for their Native American Fellowship Program, Keller’s fellowship will consist of developing her curatorial writing and exhibition narrative and planning skills, as well as brand management throughout exhibitions.

“I love how supportive the Peabody Essex Museum has been of this fellowship and their fellows,” she said. “From day one, they have made a point to stress the importance of giving us access to any part of the museum and every professional and mentor available. Each fellow has their specific ‘area’ they will be working in, but we have full reign to pull across departments and pick the brains of the established (impressive!) museum professionals throughout the museum’s many disciplines.”

Keller said she loves the cross-departmental mindset as well as the opportunities for intensives and workshops in a small group setting.

“Not only do we get to explore the amazing, vast collection of the Peabody Essex complex, we also get to visit other local institutions such as the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts,” she said. “I look forward to my position and getting to know the museum staff and other fellows!”
Twenty-First Annual Research Colloquium a Success!

The 21st Annual Research Colloquium was held from Apr. 2-6, 2018, with a poster session on Apr. 18 in partnership with OU-Tulsa. This year there were 178 oral presentations and 20 poster presentations, both undergraduate and graduate students from a variety of programs.

The winners from this year’s Research Colloquium were honored during the Student Awards Banquet. They also received a cash award.

The winners are:
**First Place**
Emily Caselman, Museum Science and Management
Bradley Reynolds, Clinical Psychology

**Second Place**
Brian Luczak, Mathematics
Lindsay Douglas, Physics

**Third Place**
Alex Beffa, Biochemistry

**Honorary Mentions**
Laura Waldman, Mechanical Engineering
Connor Lynch, Arts Management
Indreesh Badrinarayan, Chemical Engineering
Nitesh Mathur, Mathematics
Chris Woolman, Electrical Engineering
Scott Kuehn, Urban Education
Hannah Vissers, Sociology

Daniela Rosales, Sociology
Stewart Habig, English
Dulanjani Wijayasekara, Biological Sciences
Natalie Hellman, Clinical Psychology
Rob Rodriguez, Biological Sciences
Thomas Ayres, Industrial-Organizational Psychology
Brian Farish, Speech-Language Pathology

**Community Service**
Colleen Yoder, Economics

Several TU students presented during the poster session held on Apr. 18 in partnership with OU-Tulsa.

Colloquium Student Committee Member Leena Subhan Neyaz gives Dulanjani Wijayasekara her award certificate during the Awards Banquet on Apr. 10.

Colloquium Award Winners at the 2018 Awards Banquet.

The 2018 Colloquium Student Committee included: Melissa Miller, Alison Kerr, Soroor Karimi, Ebrima Tunkara, Leena Subhan Neyaz, Spenser Pulleyking, and Ryley Johnson. The committee worked with Graduate School staff to coordinate the event.
2018-2019 New Bellwether Fellowship Winners Announced

Henry Kendall College of Arts and Sciences:
- William Bryant (Clinical Psychology)
- Julia Evans (Clinical Psychology)
- Megan Gibson (English)
- Merdijana Kovacevic (Clinical Psychology)
- Bethany Kuhn (Clinical Psychology)
- Edward Lannon (Clinical Psychology)
- Rachel Lee (Clinical Psychology)
- Sylvia Luu (IO Psychology)
- Anushka Patel (Clinical Psychology)
- Cassandra Sturycz (Clinical Psychology)
- Nancy Katherine Williams (Anthropology)
- Josh Mc Loud (Biological Sciences)
- Giovanni Miraglia (Computer Eng.)
- Mobina Mohammadikharkeshi (Petroleum Eng.)
- Khashayar Nik Maleki (Computer Eng.)
- John Ostrander (Chemistry)
- Arpan Pal (Chemistry)
- Saeid Samadidana (Computer Science)
- Auzan Soedarmo (Petroleum Eng.)
- Guan Wang (Geosciences)
- Yu Zhao (Petroleum Eng.)

College of Engineering and Natural Sciences:
- Indreesh Badrinarayanan (Chemical Eng.)
- Silvio Baldino (Petroleum Eng.)
- Yuandao Chi (Petroleum Eng.)
- Matthew Crall (Mechanical Eng.)
- Amrit Kaphle (Physics)
- Hanieh Kiarbasforoushan (Petroleum Eng.)
- Sajeev Sajith Karepadath (Mechanical Eng.)
- Allen Marshall (Computer Science)

2017-2018 Chapman Graduate Scholar Presentation Awardees

DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Biological Sciences
- McLeod, Josh
- Rajbanshi, Naveen Kumar

Chemical Engineering
- Rama subramanian, Vaidheeshwar

Chemistry
- Phillips, Jesse

Clinical Psychology
- Bryant, William
- Evans, Julie
- Mulligan, Ryan
- Patel, Anushka
- Reynolds, Bradley
- Shotwell-tabke, Chelsea
- Zanotti, Danielle

Computer Engineering
- Hutchins, Nathan
- Miraglia, Giovanni

Computer Science
- Crawford, Charles
- Parrandeh, Saeid
- Rahamas, Zenefa

English
- Coleman, Lily
- Hudson, Linda
- Lee, Seungho
- Pezzelle, Amy
- Taylor, Laurel

Geosciences
- Liu, Xiaobo
- Wang, Guan

Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- Cunningham, Syndie
- Fonseca, Rose
- Hundley, Nathan
- Kerr, Alison
- Luu, Sylvia
- Mol, Matthew
- Royes, Josh

Mechanical Engineering
- Tecle, Leah

Petroleum Engineering
- Baldino, Silvio
- Gavrielatos, Elias
- Guo, Zhenyu
- Lutidze, Giorgiy
- Mohammadikharkeshi, Mobina
- Rafieepour, Saeed
- Singh, Kriti
- Zhong, Ruizhi

Physics
- Leng, Ruohanyang
- Wang, Juan

MASTER STUDENTS

Biological Sciences
- Bahrami, Benjamin

Computer Science
- Jahar, Sharmin
- Nanda Kumar, Rachna

English
- Delammermore, Aubrey
- Nix, Ashley

Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- Winterberg, Chase

Mechanical Engineering
- Fulton, Matthew

Petroleum Engineering
- Gavrielatos, Elias

Speech-Language Pathology
- Clancy, Mary
- Kibler, Emily

2018-2019 Ben Henneke Research Fellowship Recipients

Erin Anderson
- Speech-Language Pathology
- Claire Collard
- Speech-Language Pathology
- Erin Tresch
- History

Savannah Walton
- Art
- Gabrielle Willis
- Speech-Language Pathology

2018-2019 Willfred Woobank Graduate Assistantship Recipients

Michael Buonaiuto
- Mathematics
- Emily Esther
- Mechanical Engineering

Charles Crawford
- Computer Science
- Spenser Pulleyking
- Mechanical Engineering