Congrats, Grads!
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE WINS HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Aliza Gilbert, a doctoral candidate in Loyola University Chicago’s Higher Education program, was recently awarded the 2015 Humanitarian Award. This award is sponsored and presented by the Highland Park Human Relations Commission to an individual who “rendered outstanding service to the Highland Park community … and has through his/her efforts made a significant contribution to changing lives in Highland Park,” according to the City’s website. The award has been presented annually since 1996.

Aliza’s commitment to helping high school students pursue their higher education goals was a key part in earning her the award nomination. As a college counselor at Highland Park High School for the last 17 years, Aliza has helped thousands of students. She believes, “We are all members of a global society, and as members of that society we are better served when our citizens are educated.” With an eye toward supporting that philosophy, Aliza has worked hard to guide students through the challenging process of applying for college and for scholarship opportunities. She also takes care to address the particular needs of the undocumented students who come to her for help, since the process is much more difficult for them and those students often feel deterred from applying. Aliza has challenged college admissions directors to revise their applications to help make the process smoother for undocumented students.

Aliza is heavily involved with a number of professional organizations, including the Illinois Associations for College Admission Counseling, and the National Association for College Admission Counseling, on which she currently serves as Chair of the Committee for Inclusion, Access and Success.
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: CAITLIN MURRAY

Caitlin Murray is a native of Ithaca, New York, and a doctoral candidate in Loyola’s Clinical Psychology program. She was recently awarded the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award.

What kind of research are you doing?
I am drawn to research investigating the prevalence and impact of sleep disturbances in youth with neurological conditions and chronic illnesses. I feel very fortunate that this fellowship has allowed me to focus on my research interests, which include understanding the developmental trajectories of sleep disturbances in youth with spina bifida (a serious congenital birth defect), as well as the impact of poor sleep on physical, neurological, and psychological functioning (e.g., pain, attention, mood).

What drew you to the work you’re doing?
I have been heavily influenced by my previous experience working as a research assistant for Dr. Tonya Palermo, who has completed several NIH-funded projects focused on sleep disturbances in youth with chronic pain. Sleep impacts several aspects of child and adolescent health and functioning, and is relevant for children with many different types of chronic illness (as well typically developing youth). Moreover, sleep can be modified with the help of effective, evidence-based behavioral treatments, leading to significant improvements in a child’s overall health and well-being. It is hard not to be interested in sleep!

Tell us about the grant you received.
I received a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (usually referred to as NRSA), which is provided by the National Institutes of Health for training pre-doctoral researchers in the behavioral and health sciences. This grant was awarded based on a proposal that I submitted describing an original research project. Proposals are evaluated for scientific merit through a peer review system according to several categories, such as the candidate’s commitment to a productive research career and whether the proposed training plan provides experiences to develop specific research skills (e.g., expanding statistical knowledge).

What advice would you give to students who are hesitant to apply for grant funding?
The first piece of advice I would give to graduate students applying for grant funding is to make sure you are passionate about the project you hope to submit. If you do not believe in the importance and relevance of your research question, it will be difficult to convince grant reviewers that they should be excited about your project. I also believe that persistence is crucial, and it can be helpful to set small goals with the help of your research mentor. This approach really helped me to move forward step by step in this often arduous and multi-step process. Most importantly, without the support and encouragement of my mentors and collaborators, my grant application would not have been successful. In other words, you need people who are in your corner, and who believe in your project just as much as (if not more than) you!

What do you hope to be doing 10 years from now?
My hope is to have a research program in the area of pediatric sleep, with the goal of expanding knowledge on child and adolescent sleep interventions.

GRADUATE STUDENT OUTREACH SERVICES

Graduate School Outreach Services (GSOS) is now 3 years old and we thank you all for your continued support! Through the outpouring of generosity shown by Loyola University Chicago Faculty, Staff, Students, and Alum we have been able to help meet the needs of not only the families in Rogers Park, Edgewater and Uptown we have extended our reach to North Lawndale in West Chicago and to Englewood in South Chicago. Because of you we were able to lend a helping hand to over 1,450 families and contribute over 2,900 community service learning hours. By sharing our time, talents, and other resources, we have made and will continue to make a great impact in this community and abroad. Our efforts mirror Loyola University Chicago’s long-term commitment to excellence by engaging, serving, and learning.

Fall 2014, we partnered with ‘You Can Make It’ (YCM). This facility is a homeless shelter located in Englewood on the Southside of Chicago. We were able to meet their need supplying: toiletries, laundry items, clothing, baby wipes, diapers (babies) and cleaning supplies. YCM was overjoyed to receive these items.

GSOS Update continue on Page 4
HSD GRADUATE STUDENTS VISIT CAPITOL HILL

In the first 2 days of the workshop, participants heard from Judy Schneider of the Congressional Research Service, were introduced to the federal budget process by Matthew Hourihan, Director of the AAAS R&D Budget and Policy Program, and learned about the history of science policy and the importance of lobbying and science advocacy. On the 3rd day, Jennifer and Christina were able to test their newly-learned skills by meeting with Illinois Representatives Peter Roskam and Randy Hultgren and additional House and Senate staff members, to advocate for continued investment in research and development, and basic science research. Jennifer has a particular interest in science policy and advocacy, and intends to follow up from a presentation by Sam Binton, Executive Director of the National Science Policy Group, with the hope of forming a group of interested Loyola students to participate in that organization.

Earlier in March, Cell & Molecular Physiology PhD student Ryan Himes joined over 300 scientists as part of the 19th Science-Engineering-Technology (SET) Congressional Visits Day, sponsored by the Biophysical Society (a participant of the SET Work Group). Along with two other Biophysical Society members (Eric Sunberg, University of MD and Tianqi Zhang, University of WI-Madison), Ryan met with congressional offices to talk about his own laboratory experiences and the importance of sustained federal support of research funding.

Graduate Student Outreach Services, continued

Student Acclaim continues from Page 3

Also in the Fall of 2014, GSOS joined forces with the students of Loyola Gospel Choir (an undergraduate student organization) and others that assisted in the collecting, packing and delivering of 24 large boxes full of women and children's clothing, shoes and winter coats for the residence from The House of the Good Shepherd.

In Spring 2015, GSOS and the Loyola Gospel choir joined forces again to extend a hand to Corner Stone Outreach Shelter in Uptown by donating 19 boxes of clothing, toiletries, cleaning supplies and board games for their residence.

Also in the Spring of 2015, GSOS arranged for 15 staff members and student volunteers to paint, read to patients, walk with patients and sing for their Women's Awareness Month's Luncheon at Mt. Sinai Hospital on Chicago's Westside.

Graduate School Outreach Services would like to give a special thanks to student volunteers that went above and beyond volunteering for all projects mentioned above: Mirinda Morency (Class of 2015), Jade Kinney (Class of 2015) and Nick Olinger (Class of 2016). For more information about Graduate Student Outreach Services, please contact:

Sylvia Brown-Hood, M.Ed.
Office Assistant/Program Coordinator for Graduate School Outreach Services (GSOS) graduateschooloutreachservices/ Sbrown3@luc.edu

2015 DAMEN AWARD WINNER: MATTHEW T. LOGELIN

Matthew Logelin is an author, blogger, public speaker, and founder of the Liz Logelin Foundation. In March 2008, he lost his wife, Elizabeth, to a pulmonary embolism 27 hours after she gave birth to their first child, Madeline. He went on to chronicle his family’s story on his blog and in his first book, Two Kisses for Maddy: A Memoir of Loss & Love, which spent seven weeks on the New York Times Best Seller List.

Seven percent of the sales of his book supports the Liz Logelin Foundation, which provides short-term financial and emotional support to widows and widowers with young families. The foundation also holds public awareness and fundraising events including races, galas, concerts, sports events, bowling outings, book signings, and cross-country bike rides. He’s also the author of the forth-coming picture book, Be Glad Your Dad is Not an Octopus (due June 2016 from Little, Brown Books for Young Readers).

Logelin's experience was profiled in People Magazine, on the daytime shows of Rachael Ray and Oprah Winfrey, and in Minneapolis and Los Angeles–area newspapers. Logelin has appeared as the keynote speaker for the Gaithersburg Book Festival in Maryland as well as the Vascular Disease Foundation’s annual meeting. His work has received extensive media coverage including appearances on Fox and Friends, BBC Outlook, Minneapolis’ KARE 11, multiple radio shows, and in Los Angeles Magazine.

Logelin earned his bachelor's degree from St. John's University and his Master of Arts in Sociology from Loyola University Chicago in 2002.

Biography reprinted courtesy of Loyola University Chicago.
KEY DATES AND DEADLINES FOR SUMMER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Last day to submit final electronic copies of dissertation for August degree conferral</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>Independence Day Observed, Office Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Last day to submit final hard copies of dissertation for August degree conferral</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Last day to file an Application to Receive a Degree for December 2015 degree conferral</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 15</td>
<td>-- Last day to file a Late Application to Receive a Degree for December 2015 degree conferral -- $25 late fee applies</td>
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<td>August 17</td>
<td>New graduate assistantship workshop</td>
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<td>August 18</td>
<td>New graduate student orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>-- Fall Semester 2015 Begins -- Begin late and change registration -- Late registration fees apply</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>Labor Day Weekend Begins. Classes that begin at 4:15 p.m. or later are canceled.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>Last day to drop class(es) with a Bursar credit of 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>Labor Day: No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>-- Classes resume after Labor Day Weekend -- Last day to convert from credit to audit or vice versa -- Last day to request or cancel pass/ fail option</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 11</td>
<td>Incomplete grades from Spring 2015 due at the Graduate School</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from classes with a 50% refund</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from classes with a 20% refund (zero credit here-after)</td>
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GRADUATE STUDENT ACCOLADES

This section features select student accomplishments that have taken place since our previous newsletter.

Student Publications


Job Placements


Courtright, J. (PHIL-PHD). Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Mississippi University for Women. Columbus, MS. March 2015.


Student Accolades continue on Page 6
Conference Presentations


As we end another eventful academic year, I'd like to extend my heartiest congratulations to our graduates and their families and friends. While this may have been an arduous and daunting challenge for some, I hope that all our graduates got to experience the best of Loyola – the outstanding faculty, the Jesuit tradition of educating the minds and hearts of students, and the lifelong friendships. In this edition of the Newsletter, we celebrate the accomplishments and milestones of our graduate students and graduate faculty. The academic and job placements highlighted in this edition reflect Loyola's commitment to ensuring the success of its graduate students. Our graduate students have also been proactive in securing over $500,000 so far in external grant support; in publishing scholarly papers, in presenting papers at professional conferences at regional, national, and international venues; and in engaging in a variety of community outreach efforts.

I would like to thank members of the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC) for dedicating their time and efforts in organizing the most successful Interdisciplinary Research Symposium last April. The record levels of student participation and the quality of papers and posters presented was indeed impressive. As I move into a new role as interim provost here at Loyola, I'd like to acknowledge the deep and abiding commitment of the Graduate School staff to providing a supportive environment for our students and faculty. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Patricia Mooney-Melvin will be serving as interim dean of the Graduate School during this interim period. In her current role as Associate Dean, Dr. Mooney-Melvin has been pivotal in monitoring the implementation of Graduate School policies and procedures, administering merit awards, and interacting regularly with our GPDs. Lastly, our graduate program directors and graduate faculty must be commended for continuing to uphold the integrity and quality of graduate education at Loyola.

Congratulations again to our graduates, and my deep appreciation to all who continue to support graduate education.

Samuel Attoh, Dean
The Graduate School

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We invite you to contact us with any information that you wish to be shared with the entire Graduate School, such as information about our outstanding students, faculty members, research initiatives, or anything else that might help us improve how we spread the word about graduate education at Loyola University. Please send your thoughts and submissions for the Graduate School Quarterly to gradnewsletter@luc.edu.

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Enjoy your summer!

-- From your friends at the Graduate School