

THE GRADUATE POST

The Graduate School Newsletter at Michigan State University

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IN THIS ISSUE

Showcasing
Student Excellence
GenCen Promotes
Interdisciplinary Training &
Funds Dissertation Research
Recognizing Innovation
CUMREC Today
The Frank B. Martin
CUMREC Fellowship
Who Are Our
Graduate Students?

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FROM THE DEAN



It is a pleasure to welcome you to our latest edition of *The Graduate Post*! Begun in 1995, upon the recommendation of faculty and graduate students, *The Graduate Post* aims to provide information and feature articles on MSU's graduate and graduate-professional programs and students. New with this version, an electronic edition is available at <http://grad.msu.edu/graduatepost>. Each article links you to further information or reading on the web.

In this edition we focus on graduate fellowships and graduate fellows. Short videos of graduate fellows give you an engaging way to learn what they are doing in their dissertation research. It's easy to see that they are and will continue to be leaders in the future. We continue to expand the number of fellows that we highlight on this site. I invite you to take a look! There is also a description of the CUMREC endowed fellowship that focuses on information technology, broadly defined. In future editions, we will explore other endowed fellowships.

Interdisciplinarity in education and research is one key way to solve societal problems. In this edition of *The Post*, we showcase the Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change (GJEC) graduate specialization that is coordinated by the Center for Gender in Global Context. The "GenCen" has 233 affiliated faculty across 16 MSU colleges who provide courses and a wide variety of research expertise that is not offered anywhere else in the U.S. Recent graduates credit their career starts to their participation in GJEC. Learn more!

I welcome your comments on this new version of *The Graduate Post* and your suggestions for future articles.

Karen L Klomparens

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

SHOWCASING STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Michigan State University is proud to be home to many outstanding, hard-working and inspiring graduate students. The research these students conduct has the ability to change the world. Whether it is close to home (such as examining the social impact of General Motors' restructuring efforts) or thousands of miles away (such as observing Hyena behavior in Kenya), the potential impact of our students' work is far-reaching.

In order to attract the brightest graduate students who will be future leaders, the Graduate School partners with colleges in using our fellowship programs as recruitment tools. Fellowship students receive funding in support of their research, tuition, living expenses and healthcare, allowing them to focus their time and effort on their studies. These fellowship programs also help Michigan State to attract the best faculty members by ensuring there are quality students with which these educators can work.

The Graduate School website features exceptional graduate students who are or have been a part of various graduate fellowship programs at Michigan State University. To view the profiles of our featured fellows and interviews with each of them, please visit: <http://grad.msu.edu/tgsfellows>. More fellows are added to the site on a quarterly basis. The website currently features:

- **Emily Altimare**, RCAH Graduate Fellow, fifth year PhD student in anthropology
- **Sherrae Hayes**, University Enrichment Fellow, first year PhD student in African American & African studies
- **Megan Huth**, University Distinguished Fellow, fifth year PhD student in psychology
- **Brendan Klare**, University Distinguished Fellow, fifth year PhD student in computer science & engineering
- **Chris Richardson**, FAST Fellow, fourth year PhD student in astrophysics
- **Jenn Smith**, University Enrichment Fellow, PhD alumnae in zoology

CLOCKWISE: Emily Altimare, Chris Richardson, Megan Huth, Brendan Klare, Sherrae Hayes, and Jenn Smith

PHOTO CREDITS: THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

GENCEN PROMOTES INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING & FUNDS DISSERTATION RESEARCH

By Anne E. Ferguson, PhD, and Lisa M. Fine, PhD, Co-Directors of Center for Gender in Global Context

<http://gencen.isp.msu.edu>

The Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change (GJEC) Graduate Specialization is coordinated by the Center for Gender in Global Context, and is jointly offered by the Colleges of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Social Science, and Arts and Letters. It provides an unparalleled opportunity for MSU graduate students to engage in interdisciplinary academic training, research mentorship, cross-disciplinary peer interaction, and an annual dissertation research and writing funding competition. Classes on issues, concepts, methods, and applications prepare students for careers in academia, the non-profit sector, and government, both at home and abroad. Recent graduates have found positions teaching in high schools and universities, directing environmental health campaigns, and serving as research fellows.

The GJEC Specialization was formally instituted in 2000. Since that time, over 50 participating graduate students have completed or are working towards MA, MS, and PhD degrees in a remarkable breadth of disciplines. The intersection of gender and social-disparity research with the environmental and agricultural sciences is one of GenCen's distinctive focus areas, and MSU's land-grant heritage facilitates this unique combination. One graduate notes: "While I had practical experience with gender and environment issues in developing-country settings, it was the GJEC courses that gave me the much required theoretical

underpinnings to analyze gender issues in resource management. The courses gave me the confidence to undertake gender-focused research at my masters and PhD level." Few programs in the U.S. feature this synthesis of gendered perspectives and a social disparity concern, on the one hand, with strong interdisciplinary, international, and environmental foci, on the other.

The GJEC program also includes an annual competition for GJEC Dissertation Research and Writing Fellowships supported by the MSU Graduate School and open to all MSU graduate students whose research focuses on the intersection of gender and environment. It has provided funding to 15 students since the 2007-2008 academic year. Funded dissertations have spanned an impressive array of topics, including gendered perceptions and impact relating to fair trade Brazilian coffee, forest landscapes in Tanzania, and Mississippianization of late Pre-Historic Illinois. One recipient commented: "The award allowed me to complete the entire first manuscript draft of the dissertation. Without that assistance I believe the process would have taken twice as long had I been working and writing at the same time."

RECOGNIZING INNOVATION

In 1956, Frank B. Martin led a small group of men in creating a “machine records” conference for individuals tasked with data processing in higher education. An annual conference was planned so that individuals could gather to share ideas and learn from one another. The first Machine Records Conference for Educational Institutions was held at Michigan State University. This later became the College and University Machine Records Conference (CUMREC). MSU hosted the conference in 1956, 1965, 1995 and 2005. Martin would take a lead in organizing conferences for over ten years, and would lead efforts to develop a formal organization of the CUMREC board. Upon retirement from MSU in 1975, the CUMREC constitution was amended so he could remain on the board as a resource.

CUMREC TODAY

When the first CUMREC conference was held in 1956, the focus was on advancing higher education administrative computing. Technology has changed drastically since the days of punch card computing machines, with new systems taking the place of old methods. The data processing department at Michigan State University has since been replaced by IT Services.

Following the course of the changes in technology, the needs of technology managers changed as well. The CUMREC conference became known as the College and University Computer Users Association, and was disbanded at the conclusion of the 50th anniversary conference. The spirit behind the original CUMREC conference now lives on in the Frank B. Martin CUMREC Fellowship.

THE FRANK B. MARTIN CUMREC FELLOWSHIP

The Frank B. Martin CUMREC Fellowship is awarded by the Graduate School at Michigan State University to foster “the development of higher education professionals and the transformation of education through information technologies.” Recipients are chosen from a pool of applicants with career goals involving work with technology and its advancement or application. For more information on applying for the fellowship, please visit: www.cumrecfellowship.msu.edu.



ABOVE: Secretaries using punch cards for enrollment.



Frank B. Martin

*Michigan State College, 1938,
Business Administration*

*Harvard University, 1943,
Industrial Administration*

*1938-1975: Manager, MSC
Tabulating Department (later
Director, MSU Data Processing)*



Scott McGill,

*Director, MSU Academic
Information Services, was
instrumental in bringing the
Frank B. Martin CUMREC
Fellowship to MSU*

PHOTO CREDITS: MSU ACADEMIC
INFORMATION SERVICES

THEN
— V.S. —
NOW

1956

2012

President Hannah



Leadership

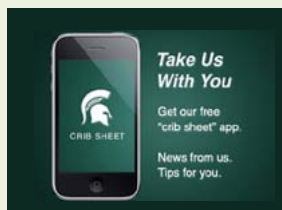


President Simon

Student Phones



Technology



MSU Phone App

Anthony Hall During Construction



Progress



Construction of Broad Art Museum

PHOTO CREDITS: BROAD MUSEUM: MICHAEL EVAN DAVIDSON,
WEBMASTER AT ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD ART MUSEUM;
PRESIDENT SIMON: MSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES; MSU CRIB
SHEET APP: MSU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION; ALL OTHER PHOTOS:
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

THE GRADUATE POST

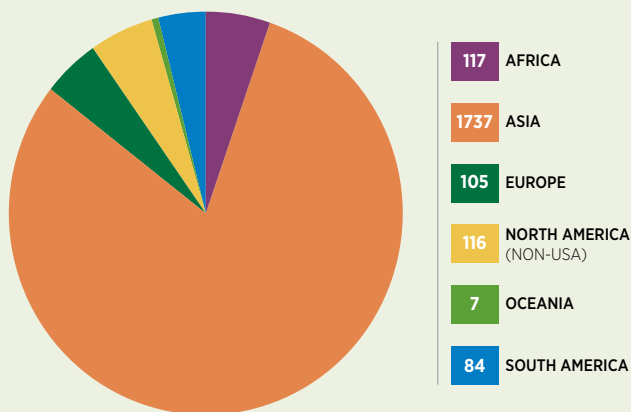
Michigan State University
Linton Hall
479 W. Circle Drive, Room 110
East Lansing, MI 48824



WHO ARE OUR GRADUATE STUDENTS?

In fall 2011, there were 8,305 graduate students enrolled full-time, and 2,974 graduate students enrolled part-time.* Of these 11,279 total students, 2,166 list their place of origin as outside the United States.

DIVERSITY WITHIN OUR INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT POPULATION



* 2011 Michigan State University College Portrait:
www.collegeportraits.org/MI/MSU/characteristics

MISSION

To serve as an advocate for graduate education to the University and beyond, and to enhance the quality of graduate education at MSU in all its diverse dimensions.

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