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SCHOOL NEWS
2010 Rackham-CRLT Seminar on Preparing Future Faculty

Rackham Graduate School and the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (CRLT) seek applicants for the eleventh annual Seminar on College Teaching, designed to help prepare senior graduate students for their first faculty positions. For this nationally-recognized seminar, we are seeking advanced graduate students who have achieved candidacy and have college or university teaching experience.

The Seminar will include the following topics:

Preparation for the academic job search including assistance with the creation of a statement of teaching philosophy and a syllabus. Information about higher education (e.g., institutional types, governance and accountability, the nature of today’s students, tenure, and faculty work life) including field trips to local college campuses. Discussion of effective and reflective teaching including meetings with University of Michigan junior faculty members, conversations about multicultural teaching and learning, and demonstrations of and reflection on the use of instructional technology.

The five-week seminar will begin Tuesday, May 4 and end Thursday, June 3, meeting every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

The deadline for applications for the program is Monday, February 8, 2010 at 4:00 pm.

Visit http://www.crlt.umich.edu/gsis/teaching_seminar.php for more information.
FDA Commissioner’s Fellowship Program

The FDA Commissioner’s Fellowship Program is a two-year training program designed to attract top-notch health professionals, food scientists, epidemiologists, engineers, pharmacists, statisticians, physicians and veterinarians. The FDA Commissioner’s Fellowship offers competitive salaries with generous funds available for travel and supplies.

The FDA Commissioner’s Fellowship program combines coursework designed to provide an in-depth understanding of science behind regulatory review with the development of a carefully designed, agency priority, regulatory science project.

Applicants must have a Doctoral level degree to be eligible. Applicants with a Bachelor’s degree in an Engineering discipline will also be considered. Candidates must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals of the U.S., or have been admitted to the U.S. for permanent residence before the program start date. For more information, or to apply, please visit www.fda.gov/commissionersfellowships/default.htm.

Applications will be accepted until March 15, 2010.

Rackham Welcomes Study Groups

Graduate students may now reserve the Rackham 2nd floor West Study Hall South Alcove for study group meetings for the current semester, at least three days in advance.

The alcove seats 18 people at a boardroom style table and there is no cost to Rackham graduate student study groups. Reservations can be made online at http://ems.rackham.umich.edu/virtualems/. Follow the directions under “Graduate Study Groups.” Study organizations can book event rooms online at the above link as well. Follow the directions under “University Departments and Student Organizations.”

OK/U-M Postdoctoral Teaching Fellows

As part of an exchange between the University of Michigan, Kalamazoo College, and Oberlin College, funded by the Mellon Foundation, applications are being accepted for 2 postdoctoral fellowships at Oberlin College or Kalamazoo College. Students from all fields in the humanities and humanistic social sciences are encouraged to apply. Applicants must have earned the Ph.D. from the University of Michigan some time after June 1, 2005, or expect to do so no later than August 15, 2010. The positions are designed to support the fellows in developing both their teaching skills and their research programs.

Features include: a one-year appointment to teach and conduct research at a major liberal arts college, beginning salary of $45,000 per year, half-time teaching load to free up time for research, and guidance and mentoring from an Oberlin College or Kalamazoo College faculty member.

Students with a strong commitment to teaching and a genuine interest in pursuing an academic career are encouraged to apply. Candidates may indicate a preference for one of the participating institutions, but this is not required. Final selections will be determined collectively by a panel of faculty from U-M, Oberlin College, and Kalamazoo College.

For more information on the program and the online application, visit http://www.rackham.umich.edu/postdoctoral/exchange_program/.

Applications must be received by February 19, 2010.

ENRICHMENT

Whose Ideas, Whose Words? Advanced Research Methods

Tuesday, February 09, 2010

11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Assembly Hall, 4th Floor, Rackham Building

One of the primary goals of academic writing is to build on ideas and engage in a conversation with others in the field. This workshop will use scenarios to discuss how to do this ethically and effectively.
Presenter Matt Kelley, Ph.D. is on the faculty of the Sweetland Writing Center and the Lloyd Hall Scholars Program. His publications have appeared or are forthcoming in Modern Fiction Studies, Sagetrieb: A Journal of Imagist Poetics, Shofar, and Midwest MLA. He is a recipient of the LSA Excellence in Education award.

Pre-registration is required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php.

Job Searches in the Humanities

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

11:00 am - 12:30 pm, Assembly Hall, 4th Floor, Rackham Building

U-M faculty will offer perspectives on effective job searches in the humanities, including advice on organizing the search, compiling a dossier, and interviewing. Faculty panelists will also offer advice on how to get the mentoring you need during the search.

Presenters include: Peggy McCracken, Professor of French, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures; Professor of Women's Studies, College of LSA; and Associate Dean for Academic Programs & Initiatives, Rackham Graduate School; Matthew Countryman, Associate Professor of History; Associate Professor of American Studies, Program in American Culture, College of LSA; and Faculty Director, Arts of Citizenship Program, OVPR; and Sara Blair, Director of Academic Program and Professor of English Language and Literature, College of LSA.

Pre-registration is required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php.

What’s It Like to Work at a Postsecondary Minority Institution?

Friday, February 12, 2010

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm, Assembly Hall, 4th floor, Rackham Building

What's it like to work at a college or university with a high proportion of underrepresented students? Panelists from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) will discuss their work life and hiring advice, from different disciplinary and institutional perspectives.

For more information or to register, please visit http://www.crlt.umich.edu/gsis/wil.php.

Parenting in the Academy

Thursday, February 11, 2010

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm, Assembly Hall, 4th floor, Rackham Building

Having a successful academic career requires years of intensive work and concentrated focus. Graduate students interested in raising a family often have questions about how faculty members manage to be successful both at work and at home. Come hear a panel of faculty talk about their experiences of having children at various stages of their careers: in graduate school, pre-tenure and post-tenure.


Pre-registration is required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php.

Building Relationships and Communicating Expectations

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Earl Lewis Room, 3rd floor, Rackham Building

In general, the majority of all conflict is caused by poor communication. Communicating expectations is an invaluable skill for everyone - in all aspects of life. Being equipped with tools to identify potential conflicting situations will enable you to have fewer conflicts in
the future and earlier resolution to those that arise. Participants will learn a number of key concepts, including: that conflict is inevitable, unavoidable—even healthy, how to set expectations openly and honestly without blame, and steps to resolve the conflict if one already exists. Pre-registration is required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php.

Writing and Completing the Dissertation

**Monday, February 22, 2010**

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm, Assembly Hall, 4th Floor, Rackham Building

Louis Cicciarelli from the Sweetland Writing Center and the Department of English Language and Literature provides strategies for completing the dissertation. He will discuss managing dissertation materials, staying motivated despite obstacles, and putting the pieces together to articulate an argument that is both coherent and relevant to the field.

Pre-registration is required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php.

EVENTS

Sciencepalooza at the Hands-On Museum

**Saturday, February 13, 2010**

Morning shift: 9:15 am - 1:30 pm  
Afternoon shift: 12:30 pm - 4:15 pm


Back by popular demand! Join other graduate students as they have loads of fun helping the Hands-On Museum with their annual Sciencepalooza event. Twenty graduate students are needed to volunteer on the museum floor conducting or assisting with hands-on activities - we’re talking fun and simple, informal and free-flowing. This is a perfect opportunity for students with outgoing personalities who enjoy interacting with young children. A gift certificate will be given to all volunteers.

The event students will be assisting with is as follows:

- C’s - Crime, Codes and Culprits: Learn about cryptology, the mathematical study of codes and secret communications. How can you tell if someone’s lying or “whodunit?” We may have a crime for you to solve, too. You never know what you may find and who the culprit may be!

There are two shifts, ten students per shift. Please register for your preferred shift.

For questions or more information, please contact Carey Viviano at cviviano@umich.edu.

Pre-registration required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php. There is limited space, so sign up by February 5, 2010.

Ann Arbor Art Center Grad Parent Social

**Saturday, February 13, 2010**

10:00 am - 12:30 pm, Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty Street, Ann Arbor, MI

Join us at Ann Arbor Art Center to make valentines gifts for our loved ones. We will be in the party room making arts and crafts. This event is ideal for children 2 - 12 years old.

Pre-registration required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php.
Spring Break Breakfast

**Monday, March 01, 2010**

8:30 am - 11:00 am, 4th floor, Rackham Building

Get your break off to the right start and stop by Rackham for breakfast at the Spring Break kickoff. We will be offering a variety of foods to help keep you going. Breakfast is FREE and open to all graduate and professional students, but please register to help us order enough food and beverages.

Pre-registration is required at https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wssel.php.