

Preparation of Graduate School Conference

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Check In, Continental Breakfast, Fair	
9:00 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.	Welcome and Introduction; Dr. Randy Hewes, Dean of Graduate College; Interim V.P. of Research	
9:20 a.m.-10:05 a.m.	Breakout Session #1	
	<p><u>Session A</u> Why go to Grad School and Where to Apply The purpose of this session is to share why graduate school should be considered, the value of a graduate degree, and how to begin thinking about the process. Things to consider in where to apply for graduate programs will also be explored. Presenters: Quy Nguyen, OU Director of Student Life and Dr. Sara Mata, NSF Research Traineeship Program Coordin.</p>	<p><u>Session B</u> Don't be Scared!: Graduate Admission Exams The purpose of this session is to discuss the various graduate admissions exams required for most graduate programs. Strategies will be offered on how to approach and prepare for this level of standardized exam. Presenter: Dr. Sophia Morren, OU McNair Scholars Director</p>
	<p><u>Session C</u> Building Relationships: Academic Networking The purpose of this session is to provide a better understanding of the importance of networking. In addition, this session will provide tips to connecting with faculty and professionals in building relationships and mentorship as well as do's and don'ts of requesting letters of recommendation. Presenter: Dr. Sherri Irvin, OU Associate Dean of Graduate College</p>	
10:05 a.m.-10:15 a.m.	Transition to Session #2	
10:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Breakout Session #2	
	<p><u>Session A</u> Getting Started in Undergraduate Research Most post-bachelor degrees require research, but that can sound daunting as an undergraduate. Fortunately, you can gain research experience now! Undergraduate research offers better understanding of and preparation for graduate school. This session will provide tips for getting started and info on programs & resources available at OU. Current OU undergraduate researchers will also share tips and insights. Presenters: Dr. Mike Faneros, Program Coordinator, Office of Undergraduate Research; Dr. Rama Kothapalli, Director, Four-year Research Engagement program Student Panelists: Emily Mee (political science), Katy Felkner (letters & computer science), and Daniel Hayden (plant biology)</p>	<p><u>Session B</u> Writing Yourself into Graduate School Graduate admissions applications require various kinds of writing (personal statements, statements of goals, research objectives, etc.). What are the purposes of these various statements? How are they similar and different? How do you even start writing? We will brainstorm ideas, share strategies, tips and get started WRITING together! Presenters: Dr. Moira Ozias Associate Director, OU Writing Center; Angie Tran, Retention Specialist LA META - Student Support Services Programs, UCO</p>
	<p><u>Session C</u> Meet an OU Graduate Admissions Counselor or Representative from OU Health Sciences Center. Have questions about the application process? Want advice? This session will provide one-on-one opportunities to visit with an OU Graduate Admissions counselor or Carrie McClain, Assistant Vice President of University Community at OUHSC to discuss more in detail about insight to OU's process, applying and requirements specific to OU.</p>	
11:00 a.m.-11:10 a.m.	Transition to Session #3	
11:10 a.m.-11:55 a.m.	Breakout Session #3	
	<p><u>Session A</u> How to Apply? Preparation is the key to most successful endeavors and applying to graduate school is no exception. This presentation will share tips and advice on how to successfully organize and prepare your application to graduate school. Presenter: Amy Shaw, OU Director of Office of Graduate Admissions</p>	<p><u>Session B</u> How to Pay for Graduate School: Panel for Humanities, Social Sciences & STEM A panel of faculty representing the listed study areas will describe sources of funding for graduate school in their fields.</p>
	<p><u>Session C</u> How to Pay for Graduate School: Panel for Education, Business, Social Work, Law, Health Professions & Counseling A panel of faculty representing the listed study areas will describe sources of funding for graduate school in their fields.</p>	
11:55 a.m.-noon.	Transition to Lunch	

	Lunch Keynote: Dr. Christan Grant; Introduction by Jeff Kelly	
1:15 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Afternoon Breakout Session #1	
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2:00 p.m.-2:10 p.m.	Transition to Session #2	
2:10 p.m.-2:55 p.m.	Afternoon Breakout Session #2	
<p><u>Session A</u> Getting Started in Undergraduate Research Most post-bachelor degrees require research, but that can sound daunting as an undergraduate. Fortunately, you can gain research experience now! Undergraduate research offers better understanding of and preparation for graduate school. This session will provide tips for getting started and info on programs & resources available at OU. Current OU undergraduate researchers will also share tips and insights. Presenters: Dr. Mike Faneros, Program Coordinator, Office of Undergraduate Research; Dr. Rama Kothapalli, Director, Four-year Research Engagement program Student Panelists: Emily Mee (political science), Katy Felkner (letters & computer science), and Daniel Hayden (plant biology)</p>	<p><u>Session B</u> Writing Yourself into Graduate School Graduate admissions applications require various kinds of writing (personal statements, statements of goals, research objectives, etc.). What are the purposes of these various statements? How are they similar and different? How do you even start writing? We will brainstorm ideas, share strategies and tips, and help and get started WRITING together! Presenters: Dr. Moira Ozias Associate Director, OU Writing Center; Angie Tran, Retention Specialist LA META - Student Support Services Programs, UCO</p>	<p><u>Session C</u> Meet an OU Graduate Admissions Counselor or Representative from OU Health Sciences Center. Have questions about the application process? Want advice? This session will provide one-on-one opportunities to visit with an OU Graduate Admissions counselor or Carrie McClain, Assistant Vice President of University Community at OUHSC to discuss more in detail about insight to OU's process, applying and requirements specific to OU.</p>
2:55 p.m.-3:05 p.m.	Transition to Session #3	
3:05 p.m.-3:45 p.m.	Afternoon Breakout Session #3	
<p><u>Session A</u> How to Apply? Preparation is the key to most successful endeavors and applying to graduate school is no exception. This presentation will share tips and advice on how to successfully organize and prepare your application to graduate school. Presenter: Amy Shaw, OU Director of Office of Graduate Admissions</p>	<p><u>Session B</u> How to Pay for Graduate School: Panel for Humanities, Social Sciences & STEM A panel of faculty representing the listed study areas will describe sources of funding for graduate school in their fields.</p>	<p><u>Session C</u> How to Pay for Graduate School: Panel for Education, Business, Social Work, Law, Health Professions & Counseling A panel of faculty representing the listed study areas will describe sources of funding for graduate school in their fields.</p>
3:45 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks	
4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Reception	