

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

at Mississippi State University[®]



Campus Tours

Need assistance with [campus tours](#)?

Contact: Natalie Parrott Coats
(nparrott@grad.msstate.edu).

Upcoming Events

McNair Preview Day will take place October 14th.

Graduate Student Research Symposium will take place October 23rd.

Graduate School Halloween Scavenger Hunt will take place October 25th-28th.

Three Minute Thesis (3MT), will take place November 17th-18th.

A Note From Our Dean

Dear Graduate Faculty and Graduate Students,

We are in the 7th week of the fall semester, and I hope that everyone has settled in to a comfortable rhythm with courses, instruction and research in spite of the challenging times. I thank the Graduate Student Association (GSA) Leadership for engaging graduate students on both the Starkville and Meridian campuses with the recent Graduate Student Welcome Week and activities (September 12 - 18, 2021).

The events hosted by the GSA were a great success. This Fall, the Graduate Student Association, in collaboration with the Graduate School, will be hosting a Fall [Graduate Research Symposium](#) on October 23rd (virtual) and the [3 Minute Thesis Competition](#) November 17th - 18th. These are incredibly important and exciting events for graduate students. In participating in these events, students gain eligibility to receive travel grants and cash awards for the top performances. Most scholarly meetings and symposia are gradually returning to in-person events, so please check with the Graduate School regarding travel grant opportunities to support attendance. The Graduate School and the Graduate Student Association are planning throughout the 2021-2022 academic year so please keep checking the social media announcements. As always, I wish you all continued success with your studies and research this semester. Please know that the Graduate School staff are here to assist in any way possible, and to ensure that graduate student experiences at Mississippi State University are productive and positive.

Best Regards,

Dr. Peter Ryan
Executive Vice Provost and Dean - The Graduate School

Staff Spotlight: Dr. Adam Knight & Tina Davis

The Graduate School (TGS) hosted their annual Graduate Coordinator workshops in mid-September. There was great turnout both in person and virtually with nearly 100 participants. The purpose of the workshop was to provide updates on policies, admissions, recruitment, GSA programming, and academic programs. While enjoying lunch together, participants asked great questions and engaged in fruitful dialog. A highlight of the event was the recognition of Dr. Adam Knight from Kinesiology and Tina Davis from Geosciences for their comprehensive dedication to graduate student success.



Dr. Adam Knight, Kinesiology



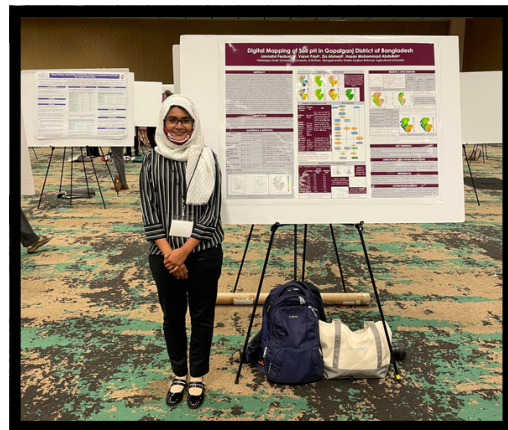
Tina Davis, Geosciences

Student Spotlight: Jannatul Ferdush, Geosciences

The Mississippi Academy of Sciences (MAS) held its 85th annual meeting August 5-6, 2021 on the beautiful Gulf Coast. Mississippi State University had a strong presence in both the presentation and competition areas of the conference. Jannatul Ferdush, a doctoral student in the department of Geosciences, was one such student and was delighted to finally have the opportunity to present her work after COVID 19 derailed her plans last year.

Ferdush's poster, entitled "Digital Mapping of Soil pH in Gopalganj District of Bangladesh," earned her a Certificate of Recognition for Best Graduate Poster Presentation Award in the Division of Geology and Geography. Ferdush was drawn to this topic because soil pH is an essential indicator of soil quality, which varies with topography, geology, climate, parent material, vegetation, and anthropogenic activities. While all of these factors affect soil pH, spatial distribution patterns and knowledge of pH variability becomes an intrinsic need for improving crop productivity and land management.

When asked how it felt to win, Ferdush said, "It inspires me to work better for the advancement of society and future challenges."



Jannatul Ferdush, Geosciences

If you would like to highlight a student in our video testimonial series, please contact Natalie Parrott Coats, at nparrott@grad.msstate.edu.

Graduate Student Welcome Week:

The Graduate School (TGS) in collaboration with the Graduate Student Association (GSA) completed their second annual Welcome Week September 12 - 19, 2021. Highlights from the week included a flag display, free ice cream & coffee, campus tours, professional headshots and more. The week culminated with volunteers from both TGS and GSA working with Habitat for Humanity to build a home for a deserving family.

If you and/or your department/team would like to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, visit their website [here](#).



GSA Members and TGS Staff



Graduate Students @ the Ice Cream Social Event

Graduate Recruitment Assistance Grants (GRAGS)

The Graduate School is now accepting proposals for the 2021-2022 Graduate Recruitment Assistance Grants (GRAGS). Programs can request up to \$5,000 in recruitment funds and up to \$15,000 in fellowships to aid in the recruitment and enrollment of new students. The deadline to submit a proposal is **October 5th**. For more information, please contact Lindsey Shelton (lshelton@grad.msstate.edu).

Upcoming Event Information: Graduate Student Research Symposium

The Graduate School (TGS), in collaboration with the Graduate Student Association (GSA), is proud to carry on the tradition of providing students with the opportunity to showcase their research accomplishments on the MSU campus by sponsoring the annual **Graduate Student Research Symposium (GSRS)**. The 20th GSRS will be held virtually **October 23, 2021**.

For event details, including poster presentations, join virtually by clicking [here](#).

Register for the Fall 2021 Graduate Student Research Symposium [HERE](#).

Three Minute Thesis

Join us **November 17th and 18th** for the 2021 Three Minute Thesis Competition!

[3MT®](#) is a competition that challenges graduate students to present a compelling verbal presentation of their thesis /dissertation topic and its significance in just three minutes. 3MT® develops academic, presentation, and research communication skills and supports the development of graduate students' capacity to effectively explain their research in language appropriate to a public audience.

Register for the 2021 3MT at MSU [here](#). Registration opens October 4th, and the deadline is October 29th, 2021 at 11:59 PM. Start planning and practicing your 3MT® now!

September 2021: Events/Dates

October 14: McNair Scholar Preview Day

October 15: Last day to apply online via myState for December graduation; \$50 fee

October 16-December 1: Late online application for December graduation via myState; \$50 fee plus \$100 late fee

October 22: Last day for thesis/dissertation defense for December graduation.

October 23: Graduate Student Research Symposium

October 25-28: Graduate School Halloween Scavenger Hunt

October 29: Graduate School Costume Contest

November 5: Last day for initial submission of thesis/dissertation to the Library for December graduation.

November 17-18: Three Minute Thesis (3MT)

“
*Education is not
preparation for life;
education is life itself.*
-John Dewey”



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