Dear Attendants,

The University of Illinois Graduate College and the Graduate Student Council welcomes you to the Second Annual Mini-Symposium on managing and maneuvering through the graduate school process. This series is intended to address common questions and concerns students across all disciplines face when embarking on their quest for research, scholarship and the sharing of knowledge. Enjoy!

Sincerely,

The Graduate Student Council

**January 15, 2009**

**4:00-4:50**

**The Logistics of Getting Out of Graduate School**

Dr. James Kollenbroich, UIC Thesis Coordinator and Thesis/Dissertation Specialist

This presentation will deal with the paperwork and procedures required for qualifying/preliminary examinations and thesis and dissertation defenses. It will also discuss the Graduate College’s formatting requirements for theses and dissertations and the supporting paperwork required when a student submits a thesis or dissertation for graduation.

Dr. James Kollenbroich has been the UIC Thesis Coordinator since 2003 and the Thesis / Dissertation Specialist since 2007. In this capacity he approves examination and defense committees, as well as theses and dissertations submitted for graduation. He received his Ph.D. in European History from UIC in 2006 and currently teaches history at Columbia College in downtown Chicago. He is the author of *Our Hour Has Come: The Homosexual Rights Movement in the Weimar Republic*, published in 2007.

**5:00-7:30**

**Finish Your Dissertation of Thesis Once and For All: A Workshop For Graduate Students**

Dr. Alison Miller, The Dissertation Coach

In this workshop students will learn to create a sound structured approach to completing their dissertation, thesis or other important graduate milestones. In addition, they will learn about common cognitive, emotional, and behavior pitfalls that interfere with progress in graduate school and what they can do about them. Strategies to overcome perfectionism, and increase motivation, learning, and productivity as well as work effectively with faculty are discussed. This workshop is relevant to students at any phase of earning a master's or doctoral degree.

Alison Miller is the owner of The Dissertation Coach, a company that offers dissertation coaching, and dissertation workshops. She has worked with thousands of students coaching them to earn their doctoral degree. Alison is also the owner of Life Essentials, a company that offers life coaching and corporate workshops and training. Alison has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Bachelor's in psychology from Cornell University. She speaks at companies and universities throughout the United States. Alison is the author of *Finish Your Dissertation Once and For All: How to Overcome Psychological Barriers, Get Results, and Move One with Your Life* published by the American Psychological Association.
February 12, 2009
4:00-4:50
Navigating Through the Academic Job Market
Dr. Kerry Ann Rockquemore, Associate Professor African-American Studies and Sociology
As the need for higher education increases, the Academic job market has become a competitive and expanding industry. The Academe is a place where graduate students will have the freedom to continue the research they have started during their foundational years at UIC. This presentation will highlight the skill sets you will need to be a viable candidate for employers. Dr. Kerry Ann Rockquemore will discuss the sometimes overlooked issues that surround the Academic job market and affect the professional environment of the higher education institution where you are applying. These issues include tenure-track vs. non-tenure track positions, research vs. teaching universities, and many more.
Kerry Ann Rockquemore is Associate Professor of African-American Studies and Sociology at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her scholarship focuses on racial identity development among mixed-race children, interracial family dynamics, and the politics of racial categorization. She is author of Beyond Black: Biracial Identity in America (2001) and Raising Biracial Children (2005), as well as over 20 articles and book chapters. Her work has been featured in various media outlets including the New York Times and ABC's 20/20. Professor Rockquemore is a popular and engaging public speaker and frequently lectures on multiracial issues.

5:00-5:50
Top Ten Hints for Facilitating IRB Review of Your Research
Charles Hoehne, Assistant Director, UIC Office for the Protection of Research Subjects
In this presentation, students will learn the rules and regulations mandated by the state of Illinois Research Board, the regulating body for research on human subjects. Students will be taken through the various methods graduate students must be familiar with at training sessions held throughout the academic year.
Charles Hoehne is an Assistant Director in the Office for the Protection of Research Subjects. He supports Social-Behavioral Sciences IRB (IRB #2), and is responsible for our research-related educational initiatives. He conducts all in-person initial Investigators training (aka Investigator 101) and all in-person HIPAA Research training. He also conducts frequent brown bag lunches on campus, both informally and for formal investigator continuing education credit. His professional research related experience is in cancer research. He helped run Hematology-oncology Clinical Trials Offices at the University of Chicago and UIC for a total of seven years before joining OPRS in August 1999.

March 12, 2009
4:00-4:50
Graduate Funding: The History, The Future, and Where to Find It.
Lisa Knepshield, Fellowship and Financial Aid Coordinator for UIC Graduate College
The demography of graduate students across the country has changed dramatically in the past fifteen years, and so has graduate funding – but do those changes match? Where does graduate funding come from? Who does it go to? Is anybody even tracking this? In this presentation, we'll go over practical suggestions for finding, applying for, and managing funding here at UIC. We'll also review the scope of graduate funding, how it has changed, the way those changes are being tracked, and what this all means for an institution like UIC. After the presentation we'll have an open discussion on both practical and theoretical issues of graduate funding.
Lisa Knepshield has been the Fellowship Coordinator for the Graduate College of the University of Illinois at Chicago since October of 2005. Prior to becoming a fellowship advisor, Lisa worked in the
field of international education for nine years. She worked for the Institute of International Education in New York and Chicago, primarily with the Fulbright program including international Fulbrighters, U.S. applicants, and national screening committees. In December 2002 she became Assistant Director of the Office of International Services at UIC, working with international faculty. Since becoming a fellowship advisor, she has a research interest in funding for graduate students from underrepresented groups.

5:00-5:50
Marketing Yourself for a Non-Academic Position
Jaime A Velasquez, Assistant Director, UIC Career Services

Many students in graduate school will leave the academe and serve the public and private sectors. In this workshop, Jaime Velasquez will illustrate the array of positions students may fill, once they complete their graduate education. He will offer advice for students who will be entering the job market and speak about the variety of relationships Career Services has with employers.

Jaime has been with OCS for more than ten years and is a proud UIC Alumni. He is primarily responsible for working with Engineering students but his door is open to all majors. He is also responsible for organizing the Career Days/Job Fairs at UIC. Like other OCS staff, Jaime is available for presentations on cover letters, resumes and interviews.