**Leadership Development Scholars Program (LDSP)**

**2018-2019 Project Descriptions**

We are pleased to announce the graduate students who have been selected for the next cohort of Leadership Development scholars.  These students were selected to implement their proposed professional development project, participate in a leadership workshop, and create a personalized leadership development plan:

**Amanda Tapia (Biostatistics) - Making Data Meaningful: Effectively Communicating Statistics in a Data-Driven World**

While the (bio)statistical profession recognizes the necessity of training in statistical communication, few graduate programs provide such training. I propose a seminar/workshop series called “Making Data Meaningful” that focuses on the key competencies of effective communication as defined by the ASA – speaking, presentation, consulting, listening, and writing. Each seminar or workshop will focus on one or more of these key competencies and provide attendees with valuable resources and hands-on experience in the practice of effective statistical communication.

**Ashley Mattheis (Communications) - Research beyond the Book: Funding and Doing Sponsored Research in the Humanities**

Interest in new research areas such as digital humanities, innovation development, and public humanities as well as varied research methods including collaborative, engaged, or community is growing as the humanities work to express their value in the funding world. Graduate students want to engage in these types of projects and incorporate these methodologies but often struggle as such projects are often ineligible for tenure and thus discouraged. Two of the planned panels focus on research types or trends and two of the panels focus on developing research skills and capacities. Each panel topic is aimed at helping young scholars feel empowered to engage with corresponding academic conversations, to determine skills they would like to develop, and to chart their own research trajectory in line with their personal career goals.

**Laetitia Meyrueix (Nutrition) - GradMinds: Inter & Intra-Professional Development and Collaboration**

Graduate students have very few opportunities to network outside of their respective departments with other graduate students. This is a lost opportunity given that building a successful network base depends a lot on using your peers. Using the Master Minds model, I propose to create a graduate student version of this concept and utilize it as a tool for inter and intra-professional development and collaboration. The benefits of being part of the GradMinds will include: (1) being a part of a community, (2) peer-advisement, (3) opportunities for collaboration, (4) extending your network, (5) new learning, (6) cross-promotion, and (7) thinking bigger. The goals of GradMinds will be to provide an environment for brainstorming, education, peer accountability and support in a group setting to sharpen our skillsets for future professional endeavors. The group will require commitment, confidentiality, and willingness to both give and receive advice and ideas, and support each other. GradMinds will act as a catalyst for professional and personal growth.

**Michael Touloupas (Dentistry) - Bridging the Gap Between Dental Education and Practice Leadership**

A gap continues to exist in dental education between conventional clinical training and the preparation necessary to become not only responsible business owners, but also successful leaders in the field. In this single day workshop, groups of students will rotate through a series of activities addressing some common challenges of practice management and analyzing the qualities and strategies common among leaders in the profession. Each activity will be situated within a different room in the School of Dentistry, with a brief introductory presentation of 20-30 minutes followed by an exercise for students to demonstrate these new strategies within the context of a simulated dental practice.