



Spring 2020

ALUMNI NEWS



Dear friends and alumni of the Graduate School:

I hope this message finds you and your family healthy and safe as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic we have had a semester like we have never experienced before. This semester has brought many challenges but we also have much to celebrate in the Graduate School at Texas Tech!

This spring, the Graduate School hosted our 19th Graduate Student Research Poster Competition, featuring the work of 171 Graduate Students as they competed for \$1,500 worth of prize money across all of the panels. This year we had a record number of participants and changed categories to better align with CGS so there were 5 this year: Biological Life Sciences, Humanities/Fine Arts, Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Engineering, Social Sciences, and Distance.

The graduate programs at Texas Tech continue to push innovation and help meet the demands for a highly knowledgeable workforce. Our graduates gain the expertise, creativity and courage to take on the world's most complex challenges. Their work in all fields continues to make a difference and enrich lives. This year we had our first virtual commencement and we awarded 823 Masters degrees and 141 Doctoral degrees, with an additional 133 graduate certificates being awarded.

A hallmark of the graduate experience at Tech is our commitment to student success. We provide a comprehensive professional and career development program that complements disciplinary training in five core areas: communication, critical thinking, leadership and management, professionalism, and ethics.

Later sections of this newsletter highlight some of the students and alumni who have applied these skills to make significant and lasting impacts in their disciplines.

Texas Tech's continued prominence as a leader in graduate education depends on our ability to recruit and support the very best students and assure that they acquire the skills they need to succeed while at Tech and after they graduate. Please visit our website for up-to-date events, accomplishments, and opportunities to give back to the Graduate School.

"From here, it's possible."

Best wishes,

Mark A. Sheridan, Ph.D.
Vice Provost for Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs
Dean of the Graduate School