

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Graduate Coordinators  
**FROM:** Graduate Student Advisory Council and The Graduate School  
**DATE:** February 20, 2009  
**SUBJECT:** 2009 Graduate Student Exposition Week and Distinguished Graduate Student Awards Ceremony and Reception

The Graduate Student Advisory Council and The Graduate School will once again be sponsoring Graduate Student Exposition from April 13 through April 17, 2009, with the Awards Ceremony scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2009, in the Grand Ballroom (MLK. Jr. Union). The social will begin at 3:30 p.m. and the program will start at 4:30 p.m. The EXPO gives graduate students an opportunity to highlight their research, develop poster displays, and participate in other scholarly projects.

This year students will still set up their posters at **11:00 a.m.** on Thursday, April 16, 2009 in the Alumni Lounge outside the Grand Ballroom in the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union and remain set up throughout the Awards Ceremony and Reception, concluding around 6:00 p.m. Currently, GSAC is working on a poster competition for the displays by program's academic college and further details will be provided at a later date.

The Award Ceremony and Reception will be held to honor each department's Distinguished Graduate Student. Please select a Distinguished Graduate Student from your program and submit the nomination form to [graduate@eiu.edu](mailto:graduate@eiu.edu). The criteria for selecting a distinguished graduate student should be set by your department. We would like you or another graduate faculty member from your department to present your Distinguished Graduate Student with a plaque to honor his/her accomplishments at the Awards Ceremony. We will be sending invitations to award recipients, administrators, department chairs, graduate program coordinators, and graduate faculty. We will post flyers in all graduate departments so that all graduate students know they are welcome to attend the Awards Ceremony and Reception.

To increase attendance at the Graduate EXPO we are not having individual student presentations this year. Instead we will have seminars/activities planned throughout the week (TBA) and each degree program will give a brief presentation on their respective research, program updates, and/or accomplishments. The Graduate Student Advisory Council and the Graduate School decided to change the format this year to prevent event fatigue and offer shorter/more focused activities to celebrate graduate education within the colleges. Programs that want to have selected students present their research within the department during the week of Graduate EXPO should contact Rodney

Ranes to plan accordingly. Additional information regarding EXPO updates will be e-mailed to you next week.

The EXPO Poster Registration form, Distinguished Graduate Student Nomination form, and Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award Nominee are due on **March 16, 2009**, in order to allow enough time for printing of the brochures and completion of plaques. The Poster Registration form and Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award can be submitted online by visiting the Graduate EXPO webpage at <http://www.eiu.edu/~graduate/awards/expo.php>. The Distinguished Graduate Student Nomination is enclosed.

Thank you for your continued support.