Upcoming Events:

**Wednesday, December 4th:**
TSLC 2020-2021 Mentor Information Session at 4:30 PM in the Mantor Hall Seminar Room. Applications can be requested from Yao Zheng after 12/9/19.

**Friday, December 6th:**
2nd-Year and Transfer Scholars deadline to complete three Financial Avenue online courses.

**Wednesday, December 11th:**
Bowling at the Big Apple Fun Center for 1st-Year Thompson Scholars from 7:00-9:00 PM.

**Monday, December 16th - Thursday, December 19th:**
Finals Week at UNK.

**Thursday, December 19th:**
TSLC Graduation Reception for UNK winter graduates Ponderosa Rooms C & D from 1:30-2:30 PM. All Thompson Scholars are invited to attend!

**Friday, December 20th:**
Winter Commencement Ceremony at the Health and Sports Center at 10:00 AM.

**December 23rd, 2019 - January 1st, 2020:**
UNK campus closed for the holidays.

**January 2nd, 2020:**
UNK campus reopens for the 2020 spring term.

**January 13th, 2020:**
Spring 2020 classes commence.

**February 7th, 2020:**
Mentor applications and recommendations are due.

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Wrapping Up Study Hours: Fall 2019

December 5th is the last day for study hours to be recorded for the TSLC program this semester. There will not be any required TSLC study hours during Dead Week or Finals Week. Special thanks to our PALs and Study Hour Proctors who facilitated the TSLC-sponsored study hours each week.

Did you attend study hours every week of the Fall 2019 semester for at least 60 minutes as a 1st-year Thompson Scholar? If you did, you have earned an incentive to the Cinema 8 Theater in Kearney! The Thompson Scholars who met this weekly expectation will be notified by Julie via Lopermail during the week of December 9th. Students who receive this email should stop at the TSLC Office to sign for and receive their incentive before leaving for winter break.

Besides these incentives, we’ll also be rewarding the five students who accumulated the most hours for their dedication to studying this fall term. The student with the most accumulated hours will receive $50 in merchandise at the UNK Antelope Bookstore and the top five students will receive an additional ticket to the Cinema 8 Theater.

Information about spring study hours, which will start on Sunday, January 26th, will be included in the January 13th newsletter. We are proud of your academic efforts! Best of luck with finals!

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Final Exam Policies and Schedule

Be sure to plan ahead using the UNK Registrar's Finals Week schedule.

[http://www.unk.edu/offices/registrar/academic_policies_handbook/Final_Exam_Schedules.php](http://www.unk.edu/offices/registrar/academic_policies_handbook/Final_Exam_Schedules.php)

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TSLC Bowling Night

**Wednesday, Dec. 11th at 7:00 PM**
Big Apple Fun Center, Kearney
For 1st-year Thompson Scholars

- Students will participate in 2 games of bowling
- 1 snack and drink per student will be provided

This is a required event for 1st-year Thompson Scholars. Please arrive at The Big Apple between 6:45-7:00 PM to pick up your shoes and find your lane with your mentor group. If you have questions or conflicts, please contact Julie Smith at the TSLC Office by Wednesday, December 4th at 5PM.
Student of the Week

Name: Falan Ryan
Hometown: Ansley, NE
Major: Athletic Training

What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar? The best part about being a Thompson Scholar is the Mentor/ Mentee Program. This part makes my weeks better and is something I look forward to every week.

What experience in life has made you a stronger person? I think the biggest experience in my life that has made me stronger is the loss of a classmate my junior year of high school. Not a day goes by that I don’t try to do my best because I know he will never get the chance too.

What sound or smell do you love? I love the smell of rain on a fresh cut field.

What do you binge-watch? I have two shows that I love to watch. Friends and NCIS: D.C.

If you could learn anything at all, what would it be? If I could learn anything, I want to learn how to fly a helicopter.

What are you obsessed with? I am obsessed with sports. If there are any extra chances to play, I will take them.

If you could have an all-expenses paid trip to see any famous world monument, which monument would you choose? The Sydney Opera House in Sydney, Australia.

What is your greatest hidden talent/skill? I know the whole alphabet is sign language plus some other signs.

Reminder: Mentor Information Session

Wednesday, December 4th at 4:30 PM

Mantor Hall Seminar Room

Interested in being a TSLC mentor for 2020-2021? You are invited to attend an informational session to learn more about the application process & the mentor position. Questions can be directed to TSLC Associate Director Chuanyao (Yao) Zheng via email at zhengc1@unk.edu. The mentor role for 2020-2021 will differ from prior years, and more information about the job description will be shared at this session.

Eligibility: The mentor positions will be open to any Thompson Scholar who will be enrolled full-time at UNK during Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 (12+ credit hours) and have obtained sophomore academic status (more than 27 credit hours completed) by end of Summer 2020. At the time of application, preference for interviews will be given to students who have earned at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA; applicants below the cumulative GPA may not receive full consideration for an interview.

Completing the 2020-2021 FAFSA

On October 1st, 2019, the 2020-2021 FAFSA application opened. While some students may have already completed the FAFSA, it is important that students who haven’t finished this process do so soon. Students are able to use their 2018 tax information to complete the 2020-2021 FAFSA. Students who are eligible have to fill out the FAFSA each year to get access to grants, loans, and work study awards. Institutional aid is available on a first-come, first-served basis, so completing the FAFSA application as soon as possible is beneficial to students to access financial resources for 2020-2021.

The first step is to make sure you have all of the personal information needed before beginning the application. The EducationQuest FAFSA Checklist is a helpful tool for gathering the information you need to complete the application:

https://www.educationquest.org/pdfs/FAFSAchecklist.pdf

Students who need assistance with completing their FAFSA application can contact the UNK Financial Aid Office for help; UNK Financial Aid is able to assist all current and incoming UNK students. Contact UNK Financial Aid at finaid1@unk.edu via email or call 308-865-8520 to set up an appointment. You can also view tips on their website:

http://www.unk.edu/offices/financial_aid/apply-for-aid.php

TSU Holiday Social

Come join TSU for a holiday social. There will be free refreshments, fun activities, and tons of activities. It will be December 10th in the Mantor Hall Main Lounge at 7pm.