Spring 2020

Welcome UNK Thompson Scholar!

Congratulations on receiving the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Scholarship at the University of Nebraska Kearney (UNK) beginning fall 2020! As a Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Scholarship recipient, once you accept your scholarship, you automatically become a member of the Thompson Scholars Learning Community, or TSCLC. The Thompson Learning Communities, which are funded by the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation at UNO, UNL and UNK, were named in honor of Susan Thompson Buffett’s father, William H. Thompson.

With the addition of the new scholarship recipients, there will be well over 400 Thompson Scholars enrolled at UNK this fall 2020; students are provided support services and opportunities based on their academic level. The TSCLC program focuses heavily on the first year when students are making a transition to college. The UNK TSCLC website includes information specifically for new Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Scholarship recipients; please visit the website at: https://www.unk.edu/offices/tslc/new_scholarship_recipients_fall.php

Once you have accepted the scholarship, please note the following details related to UNK New Student Enrollment (NSE) and learning community expectations that impact your housing at UNK:

- **Please request to join our group on Facebook: UNK Thompson Scholars Learning Community 2020-2021.** The group will help you to connect with new Thompson Scholars as you introduce yourselves, as well as to interact with TSCLC professional and student leaders. [https://www.facebook.com/groups/197666828318481/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/197666828318481/)

- **The following UNK New Student Enrollment (NSE) days have been reserved for Thompson Scholars and you must attend one of the following sessions:**
  - Tuesday, June 2nd, 2020 (morning or afternoon session)
  - Tuesday, June 16th, 2020 (morning or afternoon session)
  - Tuesday, July 21st (morning session)

  If you are not scheduled for one of those days currently, please contact Brad Green at 308-865-8986 or admissions@unk.edu to change to a TSCLC day/session. TSCLC/Honors Program students should attend a TSCLC day; Dr. Hollman has already agreed to this arrangement. Scholars with concerns about attending one of these sessions should contact Jennifer Harvey via email (harveyj@unk.edu) to discuss options. Please also remember to complete your Health form/immunization records and first homework assignment before coming to NSE.

- **Each student who accepts the Susan Thompson Buffett Scholarship at UNK will receive a phone call from TSCLC prior to the scheduled NSE day.** The TSCLC staff member will spend a few moments visiting with you via phone to learn a little about you, and provide some information about TSCLC prior to new student enrollment. Please be sure to connect with one of them ahead of your NSE day when they call, or call them back if they leave you a message.

- **The TSCLC staff will plan to connect with the group of scholars in your session on your scheduled new student enrollment day.** The staff will provide more specific information ahead of your NSE day about how and when we will meet with you.

- **During UNK New Student Enrollment (NSE) you will sign up for TWO TSCLC-designated classes when you meet with an advisor.** Academic advisors are notified in advance that you are a Thompson Scholar; as you register for fall, you will register for one freshmen seminar course (1.0 hour) and one other general studies class (3.0 hours) that day. You will be provided with the information for TSCLC classes at NSE and you can also find the TSCLC class information at this link: [https://www.unk.edu/offices/tslc/_files/academicplansheet.pdf](https://www.unk.edu/offices/tslc/_files/academicplansheet.pdf)
We plan for 1st-Year UNK Thompson Scholars to be housed together in Mantor Hall. This is an exclusive community for the 1st-Year Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Scholarship recipients; thus, as part of our learning community expectations, you will room with a fellow Thompson Scholar.

- If you have **not yet completed** your housing application through your MyBlue student account, please do so by **Sunday, May 10th at 11:59 PM** and designate yourself for the Thompson Scholars Learning Community (Mantor Hall) under the Special Interest Section. If you have concerns about paying the $50 housing application fee to meet the deadline, please email **housing@unk.edu** for options.

- If you have **already completed** a housing application/once you complete your application:
  - If you know of another incoming 1st-Year Thompson Scholar with whom you would like to room, log-in to the housing application to select an incoming Thompson Scholar student as your accepted roommate for placement; **this must be completed by Sunday, May 17th at 11:59 PM**. Also, if you had selected a roommate that is not a Thompson Scholar, please notify them you can no longer be their roommate since you will be in the TSLC, then delete the roommate match.
  - Students who are looking for another Thompson Scholar to room with can go back to the housing application and check the box indicating they wish to participate in the roommate search process; add “Thompson Scholar” to your ‘description box’ of your profile so that it is easier to search for other Thompson Scholars. **If you do not accept a roommate on your application by Sunday, May 17th, a roommate will be assigned within the community based on your profile questions in the housing application.**
  - Please note: If you planned to live in another learning community, you will be moved to Mantor Hall with TSLC upon accepting the scholarship. We partner with the other learning community programs at our campus, and they know Thompson Scholars must live in Mantor Hall for the first year.

- If you have not yet been admitted to UNK, please complete your housing application as soon as you have been admitted. You room assignment will be made after you complete your application.

- Finally, if you have special circumstances that would possibly keep you from living on campus (you are married, a parent, have an accommodations plan for housing, or already live in Kearney with family), please contact Jennifer Harvey, TSLC Director, at 308-865-8364 to discuss your situation.

Residence Life will assign students a room in the Thompson Scholars Learning Community in Mantor Hall beginning the week of May 20th. **When your assignment is made an email confirmation is sent from the Office of Residence Life.** Questions about the housing application can be directed to Rebecca Doubet, Residence Life Business Manager, at 308-865-8872 or **housing@unk.edu**.

You can learn more details on the UNK TSLC website: [https://www.unk.edu/offices/tslc/](https://www.unk.edu/offices/tslc/) and you are welcome to email us with your questions at tslc@unk.edu. The UNK TSLC staff is excited to connect with you this summer and to welcome you to our TSLC family.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Harvey, TSLC Director

Chuanyao (Yao) Zheng, TSLC Associate Director

Dr. Julie Campbell, TSLC Faculty Coordinator

Julie Smith, TSLC Assistant Director