Upcoming Events:

SEE UPDATES BELOW

Tuesday, March 17th:
TSLC Community Conversations from 3:30-4:30 PM in the Mantor Hall Main Lounge. All Thompson Scholars are encouraged to attend. Featured Guest: Nebraska College of Law. CANCELED

Thursday, March 19th:
TSLC Study Hours for the spring term ends. NEWLY ADDED

Friday, March 20th:
TSLC Outstanding Student Award nominations are due by 5 PM.

March 23rd-27th:
UNK Spring Break; no classes.

Friday, April 3rd:
2nd-Year Scholars: Major/Career Exploration Assignment can be submitted via email if you can complete it and wish to submit it to smithja5@unk.edu. UPDATED

Sunday, April 5th:
2nd-Year Scholars: Halfway to Graduation Celebration, 6:00-8:00 PM at the Holiday Inn. Business attire is required. CANCELED with the hope to reschedule this fall.

Monday, April 13th:
TSLC Community Conversations from 4:00-5:00 PM in the Mantor Hall Main Lounge. All Thompson Scholars are encouraged to attend. Featured Guest: UNK Business Services and Human Resources. CANCELED

Wednesday, April 29th:
1st-Year Scholars: End of the Year Group Picture and Community Dinner. CANCELED with the hope to reschedule the photo this fall.

Priority Registration for Summer/Fall 2020 for 1st-Year Thompson Scholars

In Spring 2020, the priority registration day for 1st-Year Thompson Scholars to enroll for Summer and/or Fall 2020 UNK courses will be Monday, April 13th. A very detailed plan for TSLC priority registration has already been shared with the 1st-Year Thompson Scholars via email, and a brief description of the process is provided here.

Students who wish to take advantage of the TSLC priority registration day must meet with academic advisors to have advising holds lifted, as well as take care of any other student bills, holds or registration requirements. Students should have their desired Summer and/or Fall 2020 courses in their MyBlue “shopping cart” prior to 7:00 AM on Monday, April 13th. Students may not add more than one of the offered TSLC classes for their cohort to their carts for priority registration. The list of classes for 1st-Year Thompson Scholars who will be starting their 2nd-Year in Fall 2020 are available on the UNK TSLC website: www.unk.edu/offices/tslc/_files/2019-2020_unk_tslc_academicplan.pdf

Students will have access as current 1st-Year Thompson Scholars to enroll in the classes in their cart using MyBlue between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM on Monday, April 13th, 2020. Students should check their final registration for the semester on MyBlue to be certain they are enrolled for the correct classes, sections, and credit hours; please double check to be sure you have ENROLLED for the courses and have not left courses in the shopping cart.

Schedule Planning Sheet: https://campuscontent.nebraska.edu/unk/delphi/documents/Advising_Schedule_Grid.pdf

TSLC Outstanding Student Awards

The TSLC program is requesting nominations for our 1st-Year and 2nd-Year Thompson Scholars for TSLC Outstanding Student Awards. Faculty, TSLC staff, and fellow Thompson Scholars can submit nominations electronically until Friday, March 20th at 5:00 PM.

These awards are an opportunity for students to be recognized who are contributing beyond what is expected of them as members of the community and in the classroom. Nominees should have demonstrated actions which embody our TSLC Vision of “Live-Learn-Connect-Succeed” in ways that caught your attention and/or exceeded your expectations.

Please complete your nominations at the following link for consideration by Friday, March 20th at 5:00 PM: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfLo4eZD_9_x_IsYBqAaN0amQiKsWEabftNko7UxczkjHotWQ/viewform?usp=sf_link
Student of the Week

Name: Abby Parlin
Hometown: Wood River, NE
Major: English Education 7-12

What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar? The best part about being a Thompson Scholar is being a part of a community who cares about me and is there for me if I have any questions.

What's a movie you can practically quote from start to finish? I can quote Mean Girls word for word.

What motivates you? My parents motivate me to do the best in college that I possibly can. They have done so much for me throughout my life, and their opinions matter so much to me. I just really want to make them proud.

If you could learn anything at all, what would it be? I think it would be really cool to learn how to play piano. I’ve tried to teach myself a couple times, but it never works out very well.

What are you obsessed with? I am obsessed with musicals. I have a list of musicals that I want to see.

What is the best book or series you have ever read? The best book I’ve read is Five Feet Apart. It’s extremely sad, but just a really beautiful book.

If you could have an all-expenses paid trip to see any famous world monument, which monument would you choose? I think I would go to Hawaii to see the USS Arizona memorial from Pearl Harbor. I feel like it would be a very humbling experience.

Changes to TSCLC Program for Spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Last Wednesday, I had prepared the newsletter for March 16 knowing that changes may come due to growing concerns about the spread of COVID-19. Tonight (3/15/20) I am updating this newsletter due to recent developments on our campus and in society.

Last week, our campus leadership made the decision for classes at UNK to transition to online learning following spring break for the safety of our community. Of course, this means students are making decisions and sacrifices in a short period of time, and I cannot say enough how proud I am of their response. Students are giving up time with friends, planned events, projects, athletics, presentations, organizations, experiential learning, celebrations and more, and have done so with maturity and compassion.

Emails were distributed to scholars last Thursday about how our program would generally be responding to these changes; Friday, I sent our more specific information based on the cohorts in the learning communities. We will be flexible with many of the learning community and scholarship expectations for the rest of the semester, and will focus our attention on the professional staff doing check-ins with scholars for the remainder of the term. We will carry on with program elements that can be done at a distance, as our semester continues with student success as our focus. We will support students via phone and video conferencing; for now, each appointment students make with our staff members should include a phone number and an email address so we have multiple ways to contact students. We appreciate the flexibility of all as we continue to make adjustments based on information from administrators and government officials.

Scholars, continue to check your CANVAS courses, your email, and your TSCLC Facebook groups so that you are in touch daily with students, faculty, and staff who care about you. Online learning will require you to get organized, create a new schedule, and use your calendar daily to move confidently ahead. Use the resources offered and reach out to student health and counseling if you need their support.

Of the utmost importance to TSCLC is to let each scholar know that we care about them as humans, that they belong here at UNK, and that we cannot wait for the opportunity to be reunited as a community. We will proceed with what we can for student learning and assessment at a distance. Our plan is to help scholars register in just a few weeks for the upcoming semesters. TSCLC staff will work to be responsive to student needs under changing conditions. Finally, we will also do our best to reschedule some important end of the year events for our 1st and 2nd-Year Scholars.

For now, practice social distancing, yet stay in touch with one another. I have no doubt that encouragement and support between the scholars will be integral in getting through these circumstances. We plan to continue communication with students this term, and will transition away from a newsletter format to more direct messaging with students on an as needed basis. Thank you! ~Jennifer Harvey, TSCLC Director