Upcoming Events:

**Thursday, November 30th:**
TSLC study hours for Fall 2017 ends.

**December 4th-December 14th:**
TSLC end-of-the-semester surveys are distributed to students via Lopermail. More information to come in an upcoming newsletter.

**Wednesday, December 6th:**
Bowling Night for 1st-Year Thompson Scholars. 7:00 PM at the Big Apple Fun Center.

**Sunday, December 10th:**
Deadline for 2nd-Year Thompson Scholars to complete 3 required Financial Avenue Courses.

**December 11th-December 14th:**
Finals Week for Fall 2017.

**Thursday, December 14th:**
UNK TSLC Graduation Reception for Fall 2017 TSLC graduates from 1:30 – 2:30 PM in the NSU Ponderosa Rooms C & D. All Thompson Scholars are welcome to attend!

**Friday, December 15th:**
UNK Fall 2017 Commencement at 10:00 AM in the UNK Health and Sports Center.

**December 25th-January 1st:**
UNK campus is closed for winter break.

Wrapping Up Study Hours

November 30th 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 2017 semester for at least 60 minutes as a 1st-year Thompson Scholar? If you did, you have earned an incentive to The Big Apple Fun Center in Kearney! The Thompson Scholars who met this weekly expectation will be notified by Yao Zheng via Lopermail during the week of December 4th. 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 Big Apple Fun Center.

Information about spring study hours, which will start on Tuesday, January 16th, will be included in the January 8th newsletter. We are proud of your academic efforts! Best of luck with finals!

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

**TSLC Bowling Night**

Wednesday, Dec. 6th 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 Yao Zheng at the TSLC Office by Wednesday, November 29th at 5PM.
Big News from TSU! We are looking forward to our TSU Holiday Party and will be prepping for our canned food drive! Our holiday party will be on Wednesday, November 29th, starting at 8:00 PM in the Mentor Lounge. We will have hot chocolate and holiday goodies, and will be doing an optional White Elephant Gift Exchange (meaning give a present, get a present. With a $5 spending maximum, but can re-gift), and will be doing a “Ugly” sweater contest!! Another fun, upcoming event is our TSU Food Drive Showdown between Mentor Groups for 1st-Year TS. This food drive for the UNK Big Blue Cupboard begins on Wednesday, November 29th and ends Wednesday, December 6th. The winning mentor group will receive bragging rights & a pizza party on Friday, December 8th, courtesy of TSU. The items need to be delivered to the TSLC office and the mentor name should be identified for the desk worker so that donations can be tallied towards the competition. 2nd-5th Year Thompson Scholars can also donate items to the food drive.

**Completing the 2018-2019 FAFSA**

On October 1st, 2017, the 2018-2019 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 2016 tax information to complete the 2018-2019 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 2018-2019.

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

For students who need assistance with completing their FAFSA application, the UNK Financial Aid Office can help. Contact UNK Financial Aid at finaid1@unk.edu via email or call 308-865-8520 to set up an appointment. Even if you are transferring to another institution (like UNMC) you can still get assistance at UNK Financial Aid currently. You can also view tips on their website: http://www.unk.edu/offices/financial_aid/apply-for-aid.php

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**TSLS Mentor Information Session**

**Wednesday, November 29th at 4:30 PM – Mentor Hall Seminar Room**

*Interested in being a TSLC mentor for 2018-2019? 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 Scotty Seebo via email at seebash@unk.edu.*

*Eligibility:* The mentor positions will be open to any Thompson Scholar who will be enrolled full-time at UNK during Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 (12+ credit hours) and have obtained sophomore academic status (more than 27 credit hours completed) by end of Summer 2018. 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.

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**Student of the Week**

Name: Joshua Hagerman
Hometown: Sidney, NE
Major: Deciding

*What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar?* The best part about being a Thompson Scholar is belonging to a community that places you on the right path to be successful.

*What three words would your closest friends use to describe you?* I believe my closest friends would describe me as quiet, hard-working, and kind.

*Who inspires you most and why?* I believe my family inspires me the most because they push me to be successful and only want the best for me.

*What is your favorite song?* Radioactive by Imagine Dragons.

*What moment in your life would you like to replay?* The feeling of running out onto the football field during my senior year of high school.

*What is your favorite season of the year and why?* My favorite season of the year is winter because I love the feeling of waking up to a blanket of snow and going on ski trips with friends and family.

*What is one thing you have always dreamed of doing?* I have always dreamed of going skydiving so I can overcome my fear of heights.

*Where is your favorite place to be?* My favorite place to be is the lake because I love the sense of freedom and happiness.

*What are you obsessed with?* I am obsessed with sports, especially basketball and football.

*What would you do differently if you had no fear of making mistakes?* I would be more outgoing without fearing I won’t fit in.