Updates

- **International Issues - Andy**
  a. Some consulates are scheduling August visa interviews.
     - Ghana and other countries are scheduling interviews in late August.
     - For those outside of the United States, these international students may have difficulty arriving before classes begin. They may need to defer.
     - Reach out to Graduate College if you have questions.
  b. Late Arrival processes
     - The Graduate College is working with ISFS on the late arrival process.
  c. A new international fund has been established to assist international students affected by COVID-19. Those who graduated in May will also be eligible. An announcement will be out soon.

- **Orientation - Plans, opening dates - Becky**
  - Online Graduate Student Orientation (GSO) is mandatory and will be available July 31, 2020.
  - In addition, the GSO and Teaching Assistant Orientation (TAO) events scheduled for Thursday, August 20 will be conducted virtually on the 20th. More details are coming soon.
  - For new graduate students with appointments we are working with HR to determine this year’s process. More will be available soon. This will include:
    - An online tutorial to assist with paperwork completion and
    - Details on how to schedule an appointment for I-9 completion.
  - Email communication about GSO/TAO will be distributed in mid-July.

- **Employee/Graduate Student page - Becky**
  - If you have Ohio University employees who are applying to your graduate programs, please direct them to the [Graduate Enrollment for Ohio University Employees web page](#) for more information.
  - Employees must apply for and be admitted to graduate status as a degree, certificate, or non-degree student through the normal application processes.
  - Admission and registration do not automatically invoke a tuition benefit. Employees must file benefit request forms separately.
  - They must complete a Conflict of Interest review before enrolling as a graduate student.

- **Change of admission term process - Katie/Nikole**
  - As students are requesting COVID-19 related deferrals, we do not want students to have to reapply.
  - The reworked deferral form is almost complete. This form comes out of OnBase. We are working to get all systems in place, and it may be available as early as next week.

- **Announcement – Katie**
  Betty Kincade is retiring at the end of this month. Please reach out to congratulate her on this exciting news.

- **Student workspaces on campus - David**
  - Students who may not be a part of a lab may need a space to conduct their research. This will be made available to students.
  - A qualification process will be required.