



ANNUAL REPORT

Academic Year 2018-2019



Student, faculty and professional staff awardees at the Graduate Student Day awards ceremony and reception on May 30, 2019 in Mitchell Auditorium, Bossone Research Enterprise Center

3141 Chestnut Street, Main Building, Suite 301, Philadelphia, PA 19104
Tel: 215.895.0366 | Fax: 215.895.0495 | Email: graduatecollege@drexel.edu
drexel.edu/graduatecollege

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
About the Graduate College	4
Meet The Staff	5
University Council on Graduate Affairs (UCGA)	7
Committee on Graduate Academic Affairs (CGAA)	9
International Graduate Recruitment Committee (IGRC)	10
Graduate Enrollment Summary	11
Graduate Student Orientation	15
Teaching Assistant Orientation & Initiatives	16
Graduate College Doctoral Fellows	17
Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)	18
Graduate Student Publications	19
Graduate Co-op & Career Development	20
Postdoctoral Affairs & Professional Development	21
Scholars Share Program	23
Coffee Hour Seminar Series	26
Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars Conference	27
Graduate Student Life	29
Teck-Kah Lim Travel Subsidy Award	34
Graduate Student Excellence Awards	35
Graduate Student Association Awards	37
Graduate Student Day	38
Doctoral Student Celebration & Commencement	39
Celebrating Women Leaders	40
Looking Ahead	41

INTRODUCTION

A Message from the Vice Provost for Graduate Education

The Graduate College is proud to present our inaugural annual report as we enter our fifth year of operation.

In this report, you will find a summary of the activities and accomplishments of the graduate and postdoctoral communities from the 2018-2019 academic year, as well as an outline of programs and initiatives led by the Graduate College, many in collaboration with our campus partners.

The Graduate College is guided by the **mission statement** articulated below and is dedicated to supporting each individual graduate student and postdoctoral fellow to achieve their academic and professional goals:

The Graduate College oversees University-wide efforts in graduate and postdoctoral education by advocating for the academic and professional development of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, advancing intellectual communication, scholarship and interdisciplinary research across disciplines, acting as a liaison between Drexel's service-oriented offices and Schools/Colleges, and promoting cultural diversity, scholarly integrity, and inclusivity.

As I reflect on the previous year, I am proud of the accomplishments of our graduate and postdoctoral communities. We have accompanied our graduate students and emerging scholars on their exciting journeys, supporting their initiatives and helping them prepare for the next steps in their careers.

Working alongside the Executive Board of the **Graduate Student Association**, whose mission is to provide diverse and broad-based academic support programming and to advocate for the interests and address concerns of graduate students, we have partnered on a wide range of events during the 2018-2019 academic year. We hosted another successful **Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars (DEGS) Conference** (p. 27), a free, student-led conference in the spring. By encouraging the sharing of research across the University, the DEGS Conference promotes the initiation of new collaborations that can push research forward by combining diverse viewpoints.

This year's **Scholars Share** program (p. 23), a monthly program co-hosted by the GSA and the Graduate College, provided a platform for graduate students across disciplines to present their research in a non-formal setting, allowing graduate students to share the scientific findings of their research, as well as their challenges and experiences in a graduate program. The Scholars Share program is a platform for cultivating creativity and interdisciplinary collaboration within the Drexel community.

This year's GSA also worked hard to help reduce stress in the graduate student population to ensure that Drexel Dragons remain physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy, and focused in their graduate coursework and research (p. 30).

Throughout the year, we have celebrated our graduate student and postdoc successes and provided them with support and guidance during challenging times. But, most importantly, we have given them a voice and the opportunity to elevate Drexel's reputation around the world through innovative research and critical thinking, identifying solutions to the world's biggest problems and preparing their industries for the future.

I encourage you to read through this report thoroughly and reach out to us with further questions or to get involved in our initiatives. We welcome your thoughts and feedback. Be sure to review page 41 for a look ahead to the upcoming 2019-2020 academic year.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, PhD
Vice Provost for Graduate Education

Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies
Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology
Drexel University College of Medicine



ABOUT THE GRADUATE COLLEGE

ABOUT US

Founded in 2015, the [Graduate College of Drexel University](#) is committed to the advancement of graduate education and ensuring graduate student success.

Under the leadership of Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, PhD, Dean and Vice Provost for Graduate Education, the Graduate College oversees more than [120 graduate programs](#) across 15 colleges, schools and centers, including

more than 40 doctorate programs. The college works closely with academic and administrative departments to advocate for graduate students through the lifecycle of their graduate experience. The college also collaborates with the deans, associate deans, program directors, professional staff and faculty advisors as the central administrative unit for fostering interdisciplinary research and academic programs, offering professional development, career and academic support, and developing and disseminating changes in policies and procedures among the graduate community.

Furthermore, the Graduate College partners with the [Graduate Student Association](#) (GSA) and the more than 20 active [graduate student organizations](#) to develop academic, cultural and social programming that enhances the Drexel experience for our diverse graduate student community.

OUR HISTORY

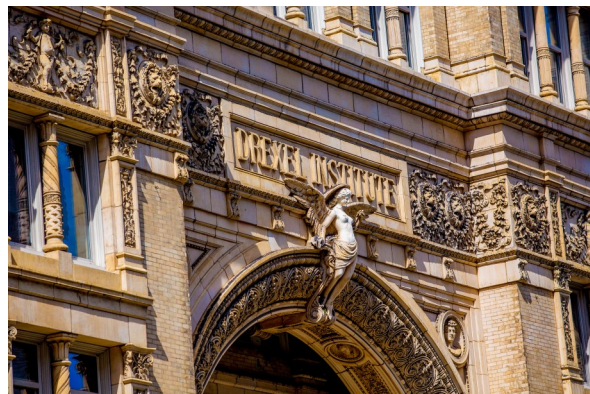
Formerly the Office of Graduate Studies, the establishment of the Graduate College was recommended by the university advisory committee on graduate education convened by the Office of the Provost in coordination with the Faculty Senate. The committee's conclusion was supported by an external review and site visit by a national leader in graduate education. A heightened emphasis on graduate education — at the master's, doctorate and postdoctoral levels — was deemed essential for Drexel to secure its place among the nation's leading research universities.

TODAY

Today, Drexel University is designated as an [R1 Doctoral University](#), indicating the highest level of research activity by the [Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education](#). This prestigious category marks an affirmation of the University's growing research enterprise and its impact on society.

Read this [DrexelNow article](#) for more information about the R1 classification

Also see [Drexel Jumps Ahead in Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education Rankings](#)



MEET THE GRADUATE COLLEGE STAFF



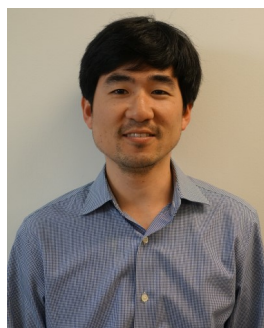
ELISABETH VAN BOCKSTAELE, PHD
Vice Provost for Graduate Education
Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical
Sciences and Professional Studies
Professor, Pharmacology
and Physiology
Drexel University College of Medicine
215.895.0366
graduatecollege@drexel.edu



SANDRA STRANG, EDM
Communications and Events
Manager
215.895.0360
sbg38@drexel.edu



NATALIE MARCIANO, MSED
Assistant Dean, Graduate College
Interim Assistant Dean of Student
Affairs, Graduate School of Biomedical
Sciences and Professional Studies
Drexel University College of Medicine
215.895.2498
nfm28@drexel.edu



DAVID KIM, MS
Administrative Coordinator
215.571.4621
dhk48@drexel.edu



MELISSA RICHMAN, MS
Director of Administration and
Finance, Graduate College
Director of Administrative Services
Graduate School of Biomedical
Sciences and Professional Studies
Drexel University College of Medicine
215.762.8407
mgr37@drexel.edu



MICHAEL RYAN, PHD
Director of Academic Support,
Graduate Pipeline Programs
Associate Department Head of
Graduate Studies, Civil,
Architectural and
Environmental Engineering
Assistant Teaching Professor,
College of Engineering
215.571.4779
mor23@drexel.edu



TSZ KWOK, EDD
Associate Director
215.571.4526
tkk22@drexel.edu



NATALIE CHERNETS, PHD
Director of Postdoctoral Affairs &
Professional Development
Associate Director,
MD/PhD Program
Assistant Professor
Graduate School of Biomedical
Sciences and Professional Studies
Drexel University College of
Medicine
215.762.1855
natalie.chernets@drexel.edu

MEET THE GRADUATE COLLEGE STAFF

2018-2019 STUDENT WORK STUDY STAFF

The Graduate College would like to thank our student staff members for their hard work and dedication in supporting the everyday operations of the Graduate College!

Thelmelis Abreu

MS Program in Design Research
Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

Kristen Chan

BSBA Program in International Business
LeBow College of Business

Moira Chau

BSN Program in Nursing
Minor in Health Services Administration
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Mizuki Davis

BS Program in Interior Design & Honor Program
Minor in Sustainability in the Built Environment
Honors Program
Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

Alexa Fattrosso

BA Program in English
Minor in Political Science
College of Arts and Sciences

Annie Huong

BS Program in Communication
Concentration in Public Relations
Minor in Marketing
College of Arts and Sciences

Amber Liu

BSN Program in Nursing
Honors Program
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Aileen Lo

BSN Program in Nursing
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Dru Martin

BSBA Program in Management Information Systems and Technology Innovation Management
LeBow College of Business

Paul Mims*

MS in Culinary Arts & Science
Center for Food & Hospitality Management

Rucksar Rahman

BSBA Program in Finance and Business Economics
LeBow College of Business

Caitlyn Rice*

MS Program in Drug Discovery and Development
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies
College of Medicine

**Graduated*



UNIVERSITY COUNCIL ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (UCGA)



The [University Council on Graduate Affairs \(UCGA\)](#) consists of graduate leadership from each of Drexel's Colleges, Schools and administrative partners. The mission of the UCGA is to address common challenges in graduate education and the graduate student experience at Drexel University. As an entity of the Graduate College, the UCGA is committed to the advancement of graduate education and ensuring graduate student success. The UCGA maintains effective channels of communication within the graduate community, ensures that all academic units are represented in the policy making process and provides support for new graduate programs and initiatives.

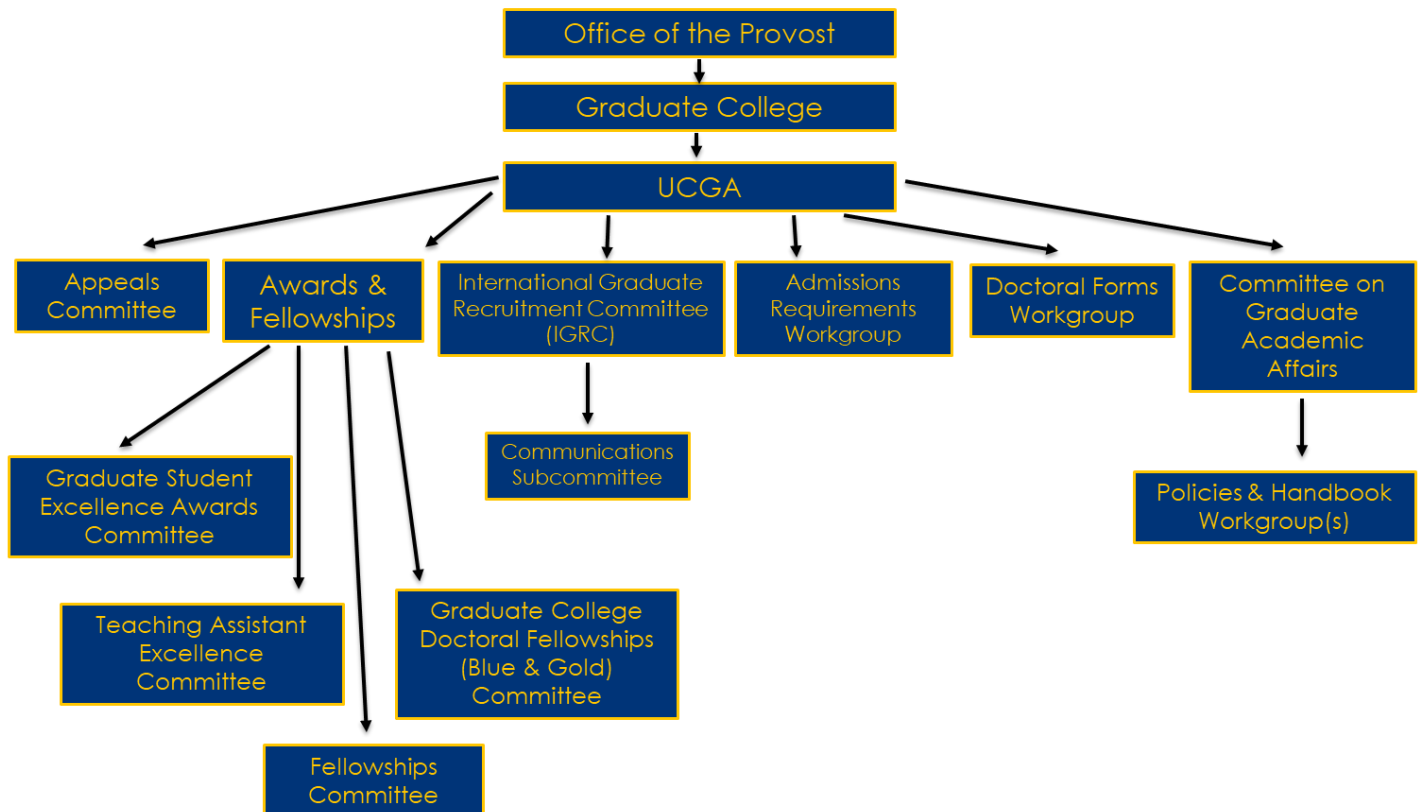
2018-2019 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chair: Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, Vice Provost for Graduate Education & Founding Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine
Stephanie Brooks, College of Nursing and Health Professions
Sean Chung, Drexel University Online
Kapil Dandekar, College of Engineering
Stephen DiPietro, Assessment, Accreditation & Institutional Effectiveness
Daniel King, College of Arts and Sciences
Brian Ellis, LeBow College of Business
Beth Haas, Kline School of Law
Aroutis Foster, School of Education
Teresa Harrison, LeBow College of Business
Stephanie Johnson, Kline School of Law
Andres Kriete, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems
Christopher Laincz, LeBow College of Business
Sherry Levin, College of Engineering
Bruce Levine, School of Education, Drexel Washington, DC Center
Vibhas Madan, LeBow College of Business
Angela Montgomery, Enrollment Management and Student Success
Kymberlee Montgomery, College of Nursing and Health Professions
Melissa Richman, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine
Damian Salas, Close School of Entrepreneurship
Giuseppe Salomone, University Registrar
Aleister Saunders, Office of Research
Jed Shumsky, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine
Brian Smith, College of Computing and Informatics
James Stimpson, Dornsife School of Public Health
Michael Wagner, Westphal College of Media Arts & Design
Anne Converse Willkomm, Goodwin College of Professional Studies

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (UCGA)

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE UCGA

The UCGA consists of ad hoc committees and workgroups to address a variety of challenges and opportunities for the graduate community at Drexel.



2018-2019 INITIATIVES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Collaborated with University stakeholders to develop graduate academic policies and procedures, including academic standing, grades, grade appeals, course repeat, course withdrawal, university withdrawal, leave of absence, readmission and walkthrough. In the process of developing a PhD student vacation policy.
- Partnered with EMSS to assess graduate marketing and recruitment efforts, identifying areas for growth and adjusting admissions requirements to better align with program enrollment goals. Also developed the first [landing page for international graduate students](#) on the Graduate Admissions website.
- Reimagined Graduate College doctoral (D) forms, working to streamline and digitize the process and define requirements for dissertation committee composition.
- Updated the graduate student excellence and teaching assistant excellence award criteria to be more inclusive of all graduate and professional programs.

COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (CGAA)

Formerly the Curriculum Committee, the Committee on Graduate Academic Affairs (CGAA) of the UCGA was formed in January to address University-wide academic affairs, policies and procedures for graduate studies.

As inaugural Chair, Ellen Giarelli, EdD, RN, MS, CRNP, Associate Professor in the PhD-Nursing Program and faculty and mentor in the DHSc Program in the College of Nursing and Health Professions, and committee members collaborated with graduate leadership and faculty across the University to realize the potential of interdisciplinary graduate studies, address common obstacle in academic affairs, and review existing graduate curriculum.



The committee is tasked with finding creative solutions to academic issues including minimum enrollment, transfer credits, quarter versus semester system, cross-college and school elective offerings, co-curricular courses, helping navigate CourseLeaf and Senate processes, identifying opportunities for revenue and resource sharing, developing unique and creative interdisciplinary programs that fill market needs, reviewing existing graduate curriculum and academic standards, and developing best practices for policies and graduate handbooks.

Effective July 2019, Vibhas Madan, PhD, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Professor of Economics in the LeBow College of Business, took over as Chair of the CGAA. Special thanks to Dr. Giarelli for leading the committee in its inaugural year!

2018-2019 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Ellen Giarelli, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Kapil Dandekar, College of Engineering

Teresa Harrison, LeBow College of Business

Natalie Marciano, Graduate College

Damian Salas, Close School of Entrepreneurship

Jed Shumsky, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine

James Stimpson, Dornsife School of Public Health

Michael Wagner, Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Anne Converse Willkomm, Goodwin College of Professional Studies

INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE (IGRC)

ABOUT THE COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: SARAH HALEY & MICHAEL RYAN, PHD

Sarah Haley, MS, Program Manager for the PhD, MS in Economics and MS in Marketing Programs at the LeBow College of Business, has worked extensively with Drexel's international graduate student population and was appointed Chair of the International Graduate Recruitment Committee (IGRC) of the University Council on Graduate Affairs (UCGA) in early 2018.



Since then, Michael Ryan, PhD, Director of Academic Support, Graduate Pipeline Programs for the Graduate College, Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies in the CAEE Department, and Assistant Teaching Professor in the College of Engineering has joined Sarah as Co-Chair of the IGRC. Dr. Ryan founded the International Graduate Student Association (IGSA) when he himself was an international graduate student at Drexel. He has also worked extensively with the international graduate student population at Drexel, supporting onboarding and retention initiatives.



The IGRC was established by the UCGA in late 2017 and consists of faculty and professional staff from across the University who work with international students and partners around the world. The committee is charged with the assessment and evaluation of Drexel's international graduate student recruitment, onboarding, support and retention efforts.

In 2018, the IGRC worked with Enrollment Management and Student Success' Communications and Marketing team to develop the first [international graduate student landing page](#) with information pertinent to prospective and incoming international graduate students, as well as their families.

Other initiatives include:

- Supporting ISSS, Graduate College and IGSA onboarding initiatives, including a series of pre-arrival webinars, airport pickup service, housing guide, orientation and social events
- Identifying and addressing barriers to international graduate student success
- Evaluating marketing and communications efforts and developing best practices
- Collecting and analyzing data to determine trends and areas for growth in enrollment
- Finding and engaging graduate students, alumni, postdocs, faculty and professional staff members with existing international partnerships, utilizing Drexel's global network

For [UCGA and IGRC Meeting Minutes](#), visit the Graduate College website.

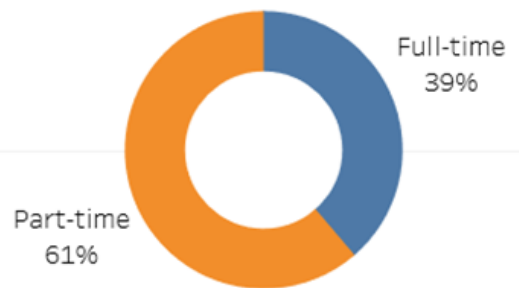
GRADUATE ENROLLMENT SUMMARY 2018-2019

In Fall 2018, we had **7,498 graduate students** enrolled at Drexel University, including **2,537 new graduate students**. This include all certificate, master's, professional doctorate and PhD programs (*excludes JD and MD*). See a complete [list of programs](#).

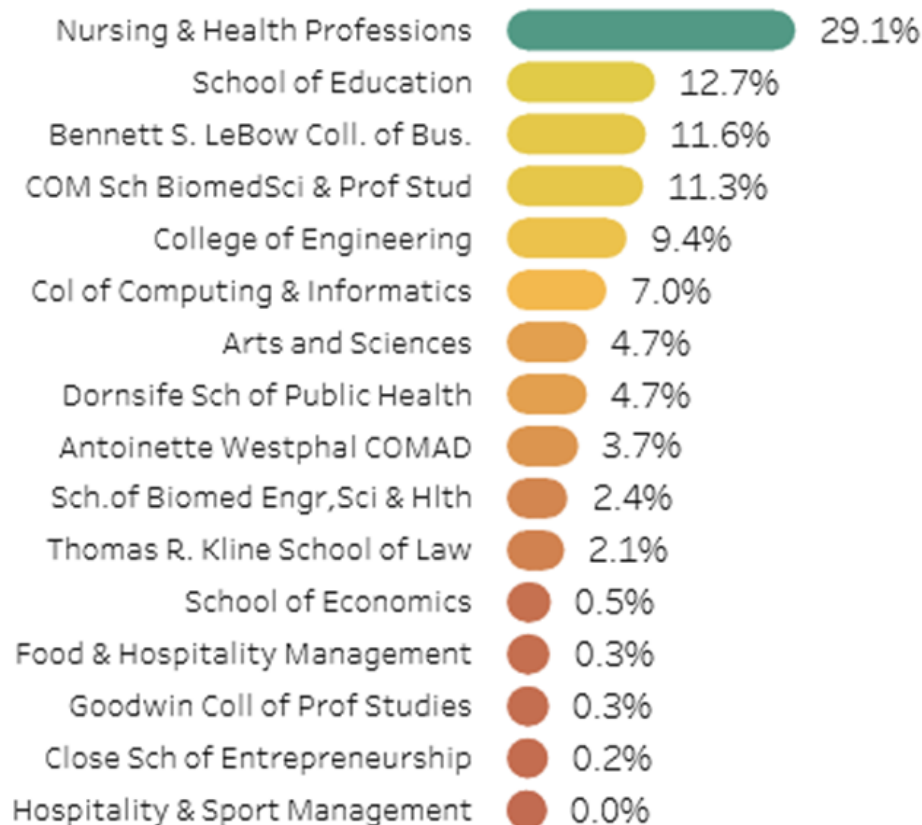
On-campus/online



Full/part-time



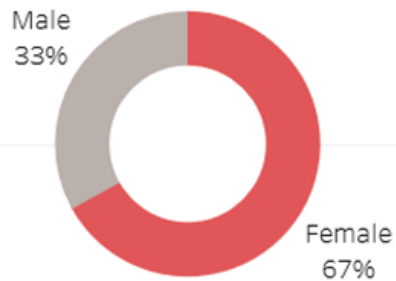
College/school



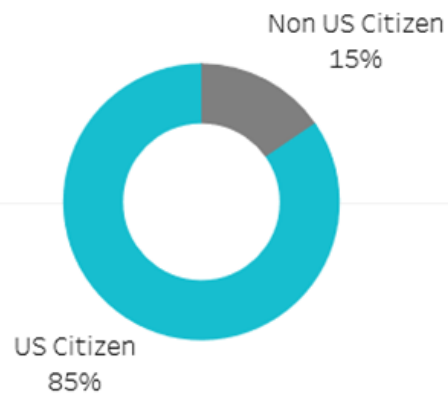
Excludes JD and MD

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT SUMMARY 2018-2019

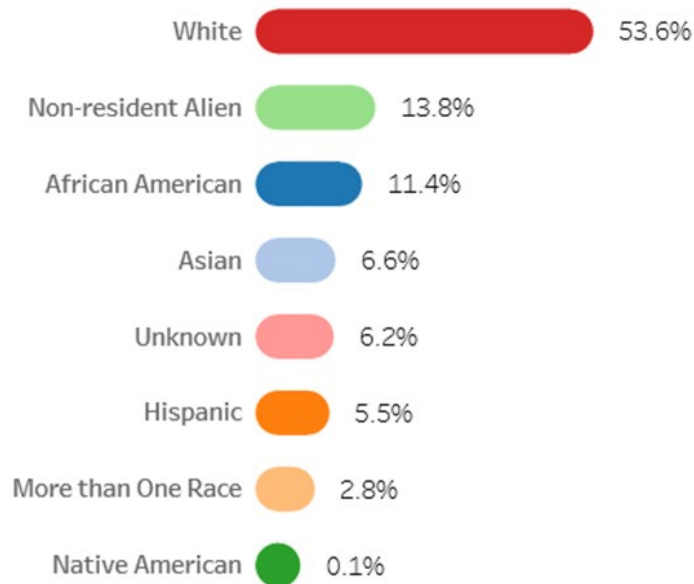
Gender



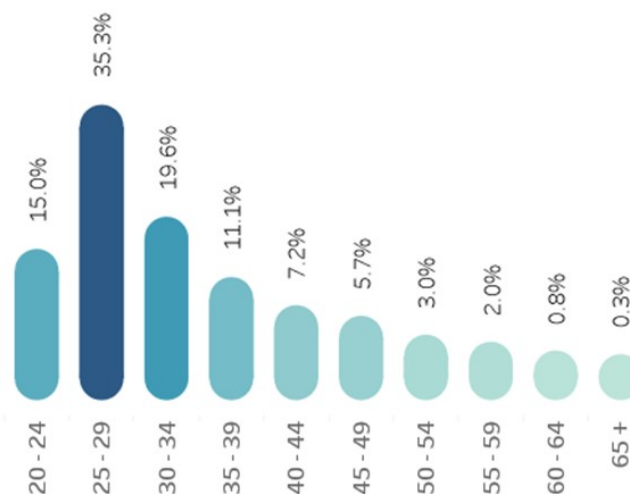
Citizenship status



Ethnicity/race



Age distribution



Average age

32

Number of Records

22 2,644

Excludes JD and MD

Graduate Key Facts

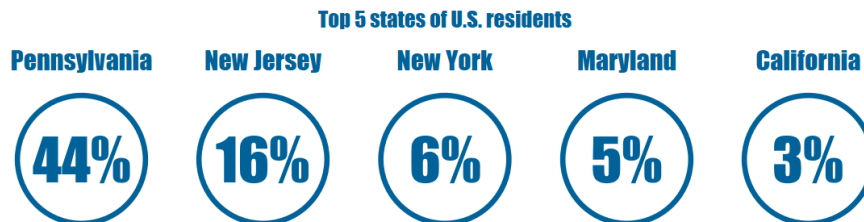
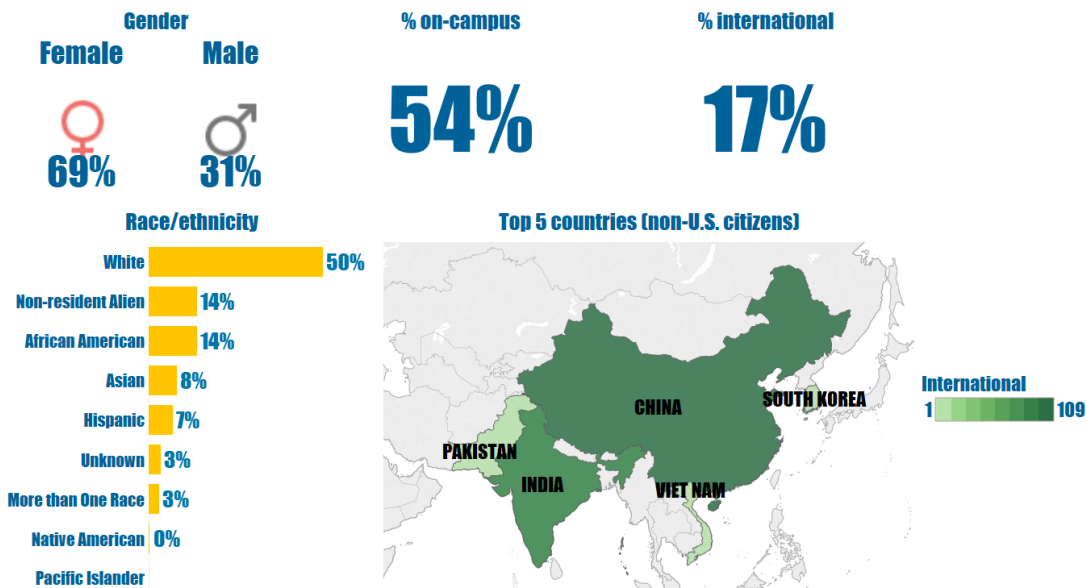
First-time, master's degree-seeking students

Admission Stats

Select Year
2018



Demographics



Retention/graduation rates



One-year-out outcomes

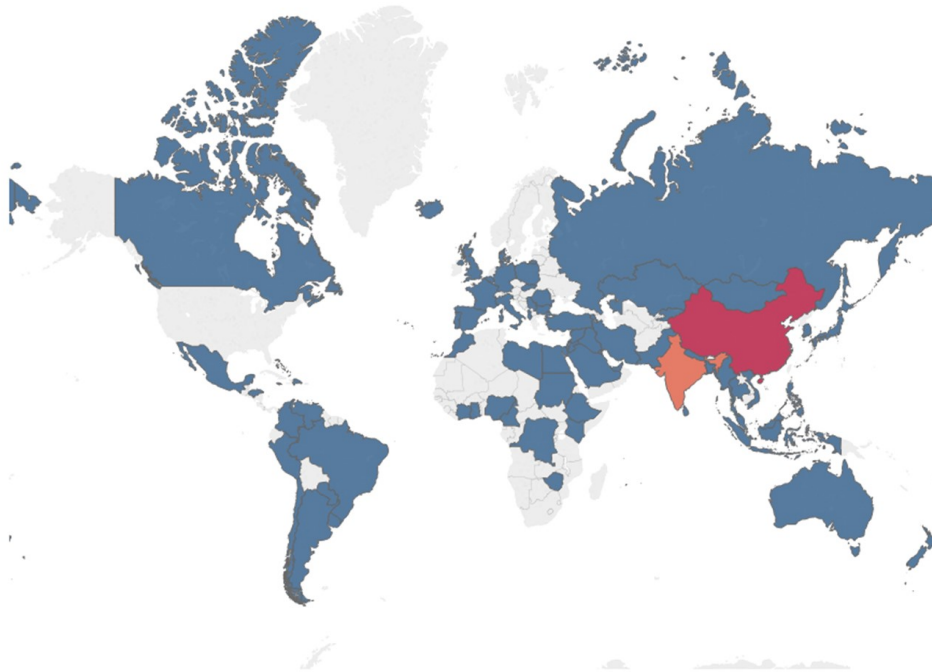
Master's (and above) recipients, as self-reported 9-12 months after graduation



GRADUATE ENROLLMENT SUMMARY 2018-2019

Where are international students coming from?

Fall 2018



DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Office of
Planning and
Institutional Research

Undergraduate/graduate

● Graduate
○ Undergraduate

Continent

All

Degree level

All

Full-time/part-time status

● Full-time
○ Part-time

Face-to-face/Online

● Face-to-face
○ Online

Fall Year

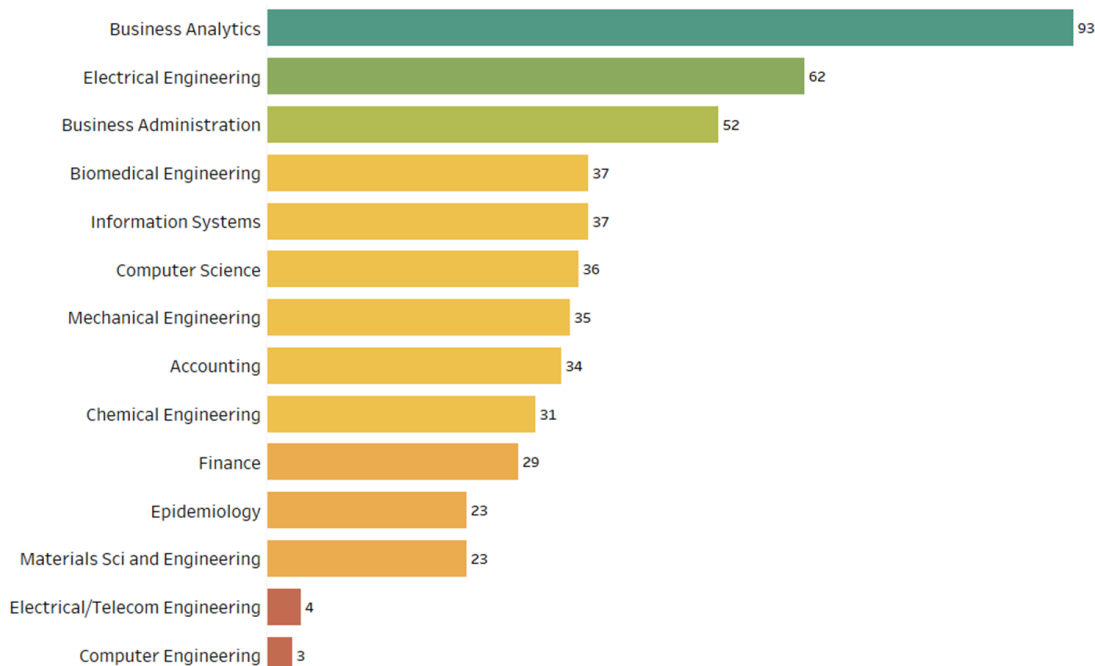
2018

Number of Records

1 347

International enrollment by major

Fall 2018 - Top 15 majors for Graduate, Full-time, Face-to-face students



DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Office of
Planning and
Institutional Research

Undergraduate/graduate

● Graduate
○ Undergraduate

Degree level

All

Full-time/part-time status

● Full-time
○ Part-time

Face-to-face/Online

● Face-to-face
○ Online

Fall Year

2018

Top N majors

(enter a value to modify list size)
15

Number of Students

3 93

GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION 2018

The Graduate College offers general [Graduate Student Orientation](#) programs each fall, including a Center City session for students in the College of Nursing and Health Professions, a mandatory International Graduate Student Orientation session hosted by ISSS and a general University-wide session in University City, to welcome new graduate students to campus and provide them with an overview of academic and student support services, campus resources, facilities and graduate policies and procedures.

On Friday, September 14 and Monday, September 17, 2018, Drexel welcomed more than 2,500 new graduate students, both on campus and online. More than 300 graduate students attended orientation and more than 60 current graduate students volunteered to help out.

Graduate Student Orientation provides opportunities for graduate students to network with graduate leadership, student organizations and their peers and obtain information about campus safety and security, financial aid and academic integrity. In addition, attendees can browse the Dragon Expo Resource Fair with representation from each of Drexel's Colleges, Schools, Centers and student services, enjoy a "Taste of Philly" lunch and social activities sponsored by the Graduate Student Association. *Keep an eye out for this year's graduate welcome fair table registration coming soon!*



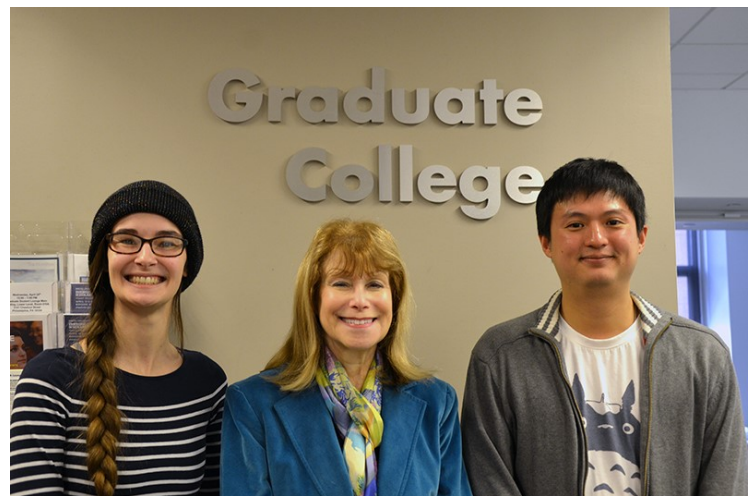
TEACHING ASSISTANT ORIENTATION & INITIATIVES 2018-2019

The Graduate College offers onboarding and training for all new, incoming graduate student Teaching Assistants (TAs) and Teaching Fellows (TFs). Each fall, the Graduate College, with the Teaching Assistant Excellence Committee under the leadership of long time Chair, Alexis Finger, MA, offers a TA Orientation and TA Prep Course (GRAD T580). Visit the [Graduate College website](#) for more information, including learning outcomes and course materials.

In addition, the Graduate College collaborated with faculty and professional staff to host a series of professional development workshops for TAs and anyone interested in teaching and learning through the [Coffee Hour Seminar Series](#).

Topics included:

- Research-based principles for smart teaching
- Teaching and engaging large classes
- Creating user-friendly syllabus
- Using technology in the classroom
- Tools for online teaching and learning



Online TA Pilot Program

The Graduate College has developed and is currently piloting a TA training program for online course instruction. The pilot program was developed as a result of survey feedback from online students who felt disengaged and therefore, did not perform as well in online courses. Adding TAs to online course instruction will reduce the teaching load for faculty and provide more opportunities for engagement, such as by:

- Facilitating discussion via Blackboard Learn;
- Tracking student engagement using course reporting and analytics;
- Setting reminders and prompts for assignments;
- Clarifying points of confusion;
- Conducting virtual office hours;
- And providing weekly summaries and reflections.

Read this DrexelNow article to learn more: [TA Tell-All: Three Drexel Teaching Assistants' Thoughts on Working with Students, Faculty and Each Other](#)

GRADUATE COLLEGE DOCTORAL FELLOWS 2018-2019

Each year, the Graduate College offers a limited number of [Doctoral Fellowships](#) designed to encourage the recruitment of highly qualified students for all of Drexel's doctoral programs. Fellowships are awarded in two tiers. Gold Fellows receive a sum of \$10,000 distributed over two years in addition to the stipends offered to them by their program. Blue Fellows receive a sum of \$4,000 distributed over two years in addition to the stipends offered to them by their program. In 2018, the Graduate College received 36 exceptional nominations and selected four Gold-Level Fellows:



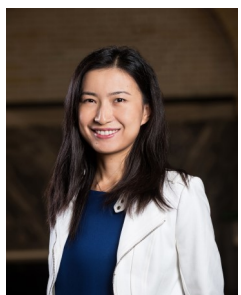
Mark Anayee, Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering

Mark is delighted to join Drexel University, the Materials Science and Engineering department, and Dr. Yury Gogotsi's group to pursue a PhD. Although he wasn't able to join Drexel's renowned undergraduate MSE program, it was a matter of time until the dream was realized. Mark completed his Bachelor's degree in MSE with a chemistry minor at Clemson University where he conducted research on graphene oxide, silicon photonics, and polyoxometalate chemistry. At Drexel, he is interested in studying surface modification and functionalization of 2D MXene materials to better understand their fundamental structures and properties in the hopes of improving their performance in the energy storage and catalysis applications.



Christian Cabuslay, Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences

Christian comes to Drexel from the University of California at Berkeley where he studies Molecular Environmental Biology and completed an honors thesis under the advisement of Dr. Chelsea Specht. He is interested in the biology of ants, which is a major reason he chose to attend Drexel for graduate school. Christian is a member of Dr. Jacob Russell's lab where he is looking at the interactions between ants and their gut microbiome.



Ou Stella Liang, Information Science, College of Computing and Informatics

Ou Stella is excited to join the Drexel community and Dr. Christopher C. Yang's lab to pursue her interest in health informatics. Her goal is to leverage advanced data analytics to improve public health as it relates to drug safety and injury prevention. Prior to joining the Yang lab, Liang spent seven years as an internal consultant and manager at the Johns Hopkins Medicine where she collaborated with multidisciplinary healthcare professionals and gained expertise in analyzing healthcare data leading to several publications in medical journals. She received a Master of Health

Administration from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and a Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Science from the Peking University Health Science Center.



Simar Singh, Clinical Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences

Simar is a first-year Clinical Psychology Doctoral student in Dr. Michael Lowe's Lab. She graduated with a double major in Psychology and Integrative Biology from the University of California, Berkeley in 2016, and did her clinical research in two labs at the University of California, San Francisco thereafter, investigating the efficacy of eating disorders treatments and the impact of environmental stressors on child development. She hopes to focus her graduate research on the neurobiological bases of eating disorders - specifically, how genes and neural structure function to promote and maintain disordered eating.

The 2019-2020 Fellows will be announced soon. Check the [Graduate College website](#) this fall!

RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH (RCR) COURSE

In partnership with the [Office of Research](#), the Graduate College offers *An Introduction to Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR): A Short Course for Investigators*, which introduces graduate students to major ethical and policy issues in research.

The course is typically offered in the winter and summer quarters.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides an overview of key elements of research methods and ethics ensuring Drexel students have a solid foundation of these elements in compliance with federal funding agencies. Topics covered through the course include data fabrication, data falsification and plagiarism, responsible authorship, publication and mentorship practices, conflicts of interest, data management, and the use of human and animal subjects in research.

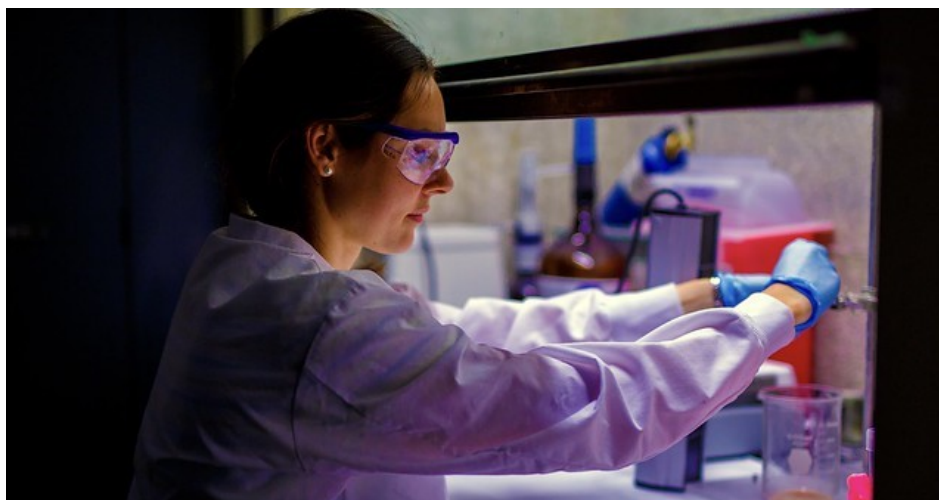
COURSE REGISTRATION

Graduate students who are required to take the course, including those who are participating in NIH grants, will be registered by the Graduate College via request from the graduate academic advisor. The course is a one-credit non-billable course and meets face-to-face ONLY. Grading is Pass/Fail. The course is offered twice per year in the winter and summer quarters. Quarter programs only.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, visit the [course website](#) and download the course syllabus

Questions? Contact the Course Director, Dr. Natalie Chernets at natalie.chernets@drexel.edu



GRADUATE STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



The Graduate College highlights graduate students who have published research, presented at national and international meetings and conference, including poster and oral research presentations, and who have been featured in news or other publications on the [Graduate College website](#). Below is some data we have collected utilizing Google Scholar alerts to track the impact of graduate students on Drexel's research enterprise.

In 2018-2019, the Graduate College identified nearly **180 publications** featuring more than **220 graduate students** in **50 different programs** across **10 Colleges and Schools**.

College/School	Students
College of Engineering	76
College of Arts and Sciences	64
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies	20
College of Computing & Informatics	19
Dornsife School of Public Health	13
School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems	12
College of Nursing and Health Professions	9
School of Education	6
LeBow College of Business	3
Westphal College of Media Arts & Design	1

Our graduate students are featured in publications by the *American Chemical Society*, *Advanced Functional Materials*, *Journal of Materials Chemistry*, *American Physical Society*, *Cell*, *CHI Conferences*, *Frontiers In*, *PLOS ONE*, *Nature*, *Nature Communications*, *Scientific Reports*, *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research*, *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, *International Journal of Eating Disorders*, *IEEE*, *National Academy of Sciences* and many more.

We encourage graduate students and faculty to notify the Graduate College when graduate students are published/featured in research, news, and more. You can find a listing of publications on the [Graduate College website](#).

The Graduate College also partnered with Drexel Libraries to help educate graduate students and faculty about navigating the Open Access Landscape, including predatory journals, November 29, 2019 at Scholar Snack. A recording can be found [here](#).

GRADUATE CO-OP & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Graduate College works closely with the Steinbright Career Development Center to offer professional development and career workshops to help graduate students hone their skills, network and explore potential career interests both in academia and industry.



2018-2019 CAREER WORKSHOPS

- **11** career fair prep workshops
- **8** graduate specific workshops on topics including resume/CV and professional writing (cover letter, email inquiry), interviewing, job search, Myers–Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), and Steinbright resources

2018-2019 CAREER FAIRS

- Fall Career Fair
- Engineering & Technology Career Fair—*More than 100 employers indicated interest in Drexel **graduate students***
- Spring Career Fair

2018-2019 ADVISING APPOINTMENTS

Steinbright had over **650 interactions** with graduate students in Academic Year 2018-2019

2018-2019 GRADUATE CO-OP PROGRAM

[Graduate Co-op](#) enables master's level graduate students in eligible programs to alternate class terms with a six-month period of hands-on experience, gaining access to employers in their chosen industries. The graduate co-op program's summer/fall 2018 cycle had **53 graduate student** participants from the College of Engineering, College of Computing and Informatics, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems, and Center for Food and Hospitality Management. Students worked for **40 different companies**.

Steinbright **taught 94 students** in five sections of COOP 500, a required course for graduate co-op students, in Fall 2018 which was cohorted by major. The Graduate College and Steinbright are currently working together to develop more online resources for graduate students, including an online version of COOP 500 for a general audience.

For more information about Graduate Co-op, including a list of eligible programs, visit the [Steinbright Career Development website](#).

MEET HANDSHAKE

Graduate Students: [Read more](#) about Handshake, the University's recommended job search engine for students!

Read this DrexelNow article to discover [How a Drexel Graduate Student Harnessed the Power of Co-op in Dream Position](#)

POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Natalie Chernets, PhD, began her role as Director of Postdoctoral Affairs and Professional Development at Drexel in Spring 2018. Since then, she has developed several new professional development opportunities for postdoctoral fellows and graduate student at Drexel.



Who are postdocs?

A postdoctoral scholar is an individual holding a doctoral degree who is engaged in a temporary period of mentored research and/or scholarly training for the purpose of acquiring the professional skills needed to pursue a career path of their choosing (National Postdoc Association).

Drexel has about 90 postdoctoral fellows across all campuses and disciplines. While the majority are working in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies in the College of Medicine, there are also postdocs in the College of Engineering, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions, School of Education, Dornsife School of Public Health, Autism Institute, Nanotechnology Institute, and School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems.

What does the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Professional Development do?

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs partners with Drexel Postdoctoral Association (DPA) to support postdoctoral fellows during their time at Drexel and prepares them for the next steps of their career. The DPA is organized into several committees addressing the needs of postdocs: Career and Professional Development, Resource, Wellness, Community Building, International Community Relations, and Funding Committees.

Drexel celebrated its first National Postdoc Appreciation Week in fall 2018 which included a mentor/mentee reception and cancer career clinics hosted by the American Association for Cancer Research. Graduate students and postdocs were welcome to attend.

We also launched a monthly career seminar series in winter 2019 featuring covering a variety of professional skills including networking, job search, communication, negotiation, etc. The series is open to postdocs and senior graduate students at Drexel.

In June, postdocs were invited to attend the Faculty Professional Development Day in hosted by the Office of Faculty Affairs.

(Continued on next page)

POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and DPA also partnered with local institutions' postdoc offices and associations (UPenn, CHOP, Jefferson, Wistar) to offer "Designing Your Postdoc", a workshop facilitated by Sofie R. Kleppner, PhD, Associate Dean for Postdoctoral Affairs at Stanford University. Learning outcomes included: define what postdoctoral training will provide to you, consider values and balance in your life relative to your training, identify your professional development strengths and areas to develop, create a set of plans for your postdoctoral training, make an action plan and translate into an Individual Development Plan (IDP).

What's next for Postdoctoral Affairs?

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs will work with the Graduate College to launch a Postdoctoral Travel Fellowship to support postdoctoral fellows invited to travel and present their work at national meetings and conferences or to attend a professional development course or workshop. We are also planning to develop a Postdoctoral Advisory Committee comprised of faculty and postdocs from all colleges and school to help inform policies and establish standardize onboarding and exit processes.

INAUGURAL POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Mr. Wistar Morris and Mrs. Martha Morris visited Drexel on January 9, 2019 to award the inaugural Cotswold Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship to Dr. Diana Norden for her research in spinal cord injury-induced deficits in antiviral immunity in Dr. John Bethea's lab. The fellowship will support Dr. Norden in her transition from Postdoctoral Research Fellow to Assistant Research Professor and provide opportunities for continued research and professional development.

Since then, the Cotswold Foundation has pledged an **additional \$400,000** to support additional Postdoctoral Research Fellows going forward. The Graduate College and Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Professional Development, under the leadership of Dr. Natalie Chernets, is extremely grateful for the support and generosity of Mr. & Mrs. Wistar Morris and the Cotswold Foundation.

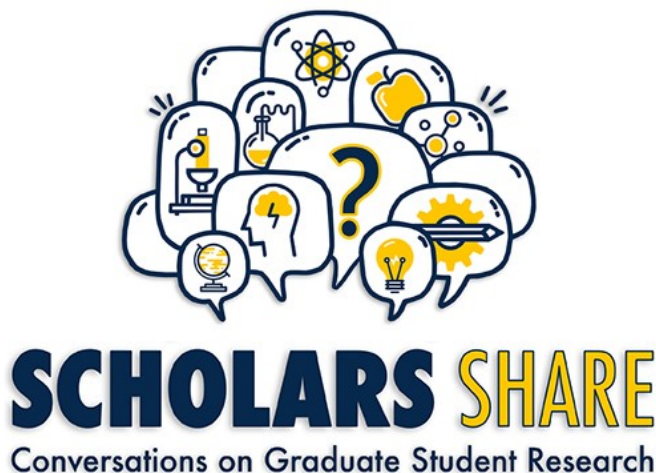
Read these DrexelNow articles to learn more about the life of postdocs!

- [The Secret Life of Postdocs, Vol. 1](#)
- [The Secret Life of Postdocs, Vol. 2](#)
- [The Secret Life of Postdocs, Vol. 3](#)



SCHOLARS SHARE PROGRAM 2018-2019

Founded as “Books & Bagels: Conversations on Interdisciplinary Research” in 2012 by Assistant Dean of the Graduate College, Natalie Marciano, and Former President of the Graduate Student Association, Jessica Snyder, PhD, [Scholars Share: Conversations on Graduate Student Research](#) features current graduate students, as well as recent graduates or postdocs, sharing an overview of their research and experience, touching on their research methods, challenges, successes, opportunities and the broader implications of their work to a general audience. The presentations are then followed by Q&A and interdisciplinary discussion led by a faculty moderator. More than 100 students have joined the Scholars Share presenter’s club over the past seven years! Here are this year’s



participants:

SEPTEMBER 2018

Greg Loring-Albright, PhD Program in Communication, Culture and Media, College of Arts and Sciences

Jennifer Villareale, MS Program in Digital Media, Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

Moderated by Andrew Jenkins, PhD, Assistant Teaching Professor in Communication, Culture and Media,

College of Arts and Sciences

OCTOBER 2018

Lisa Lanza, PhD Program in Nutrition Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Ming Yuan Low, PhD Program in Creative Arts Therapies, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Rosemary DeLuccia, PhD Program in Nutrition Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Moderated by Brandy-Joe Milliron, PhD, Assistant Professor, Nutrition Sciences Department, College of Nursing and Health Professions

2018-2019 SCHOLARS SHARE PROGRAM



NOVEMBER 2018

Swathi Jagannath, PhD Program in Information Science, College of Computing and Informatics

Michael Silverstein, PhD Program in Clinical Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences

Moderated by Michelle Rogers, PhD, Associate Professor, Information Science, College of Computing and Informatics



JANUARY 2019

Julia Rover, MS Program in Human Nutrition, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Travis Pollen, PhD Program in Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Sarah Gleeson, PhD Program in Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering

Moderated by Margaret Finley, PT, PhD, Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions



FEBRUARY 2019

Nicholas St. Angelo, MS Program in Design Research, Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

Marie Mastrobattista, MS Program in Interior Architecture and Design

Moderated by Dee Nicholas, NCIDQ, AIA, NCARB, LEED GA, Assistant Professor, Director of the MS

in Design Research, Department of Architecture, Design & Urbanism, Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

2018-2019 SCHOLARS SHARE PROGRAM



APRIL 2019

Christine Call, PhD Program in Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences

Asia Sarycheva, PhD Program in Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering

Caitlyn Rice, MS Program in Drug Discovery and Development, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine

Moderated by Michael Ryan, PhD, Director of Academic Support, Graduate Pipeline Programs, Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies, Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering, Assistant Teaching Professor, College of Engineering

MAY 2019

Katherine-Myers Coffman, PhD MT-BC, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Creative Arts Therapies, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Abigail Duffine Gillman, PhD, RDN, LDN, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Nutrition Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Moderated by Deeptha Sukumar, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Nutrition Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions

SCHOLARS SHARE AWARD 2019

This year, the Graduate Student Association selected one Scholars Share presenter from the 2018-2019 academic year to honor at the annual Graduate Student Day awards ceremony and reception on May 30, 2019.



Sarah Gleeson

PhD Program in Materials Science and Engineering
College of Engineering

To view recordings this year's Scholars Share presentations and for more information about the speakers, please visit the [Scholars Share page](#) on the Graduate College website. We encourage graduate students to [sign up to speak](#) at next year's presentations!

COFFEE HOUR SEMINAR SERIES 2018-2019

The [Coffee Hour Seminar Series](#) brings the graduate community together for in-demand professional development workshops. These interactive workshops are held on a monthly basis and feature a wide variety of topics requested by and for graduate students.



This year, the Graduate College hosted a **Financial Literacy Series** to help graduate students understand the importance of financial planning on a graduate student budget. Our volunteer facilitator, Michael R. Clancy, MBA, CFP, CLU, Director of Financial Planning at College of Medicine, addressed some of the unique challenges graduate students face when it comes to financial management and wellness.

Part I—Budgeting Basics for Graduate Students

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

Part II—Banking, Credit & Loans

Co-Sponsored by the Drexel Biomedical Graduate Association (DBGA)

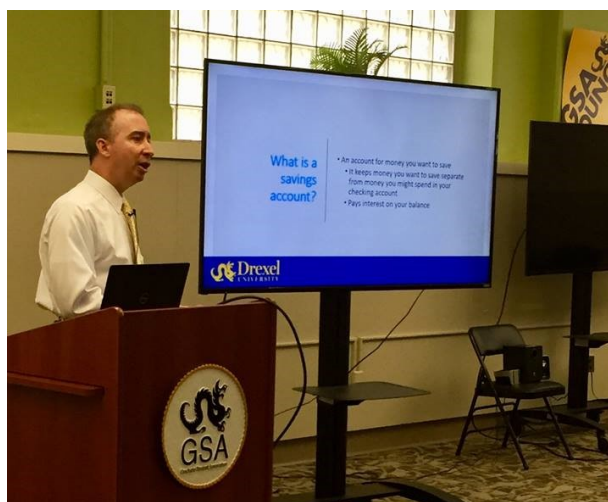
Friday, October 5, 2018

Part III—The Tax Talk

Friday, January 25, 2019

Part IV—Into the Workforce: Employee Benefits & Beginner Investing

Wednesday, May 29, 2019



In addition, The Graduate College also hosted a series of workshops focused on **overall wellness**, a key theme for this year's GSA and IGSA Executive Boards.

Preventing Escalation with Conflict Resolution Skills with Jesse Krohn, MEd, JD

Friday, November 9, 2018

Unconscious Bias & Power Dynamics in Academia with Dr. Ana E. Núñez, MD

Thursday, February 7, 2019

Resilience Arise! An Interactive Wellness Workshop with Dr. Chalice Jenkins, PhD, LPC, NCC

Monday, May 13, 2019

The Drexel Therapy Dogs Visit the Graduate College

Friday, June 28, 2019

Visit the [Graduate College website](#) for more information and videos of all sessions. Please share ideas for future workshop topics and speakers! Email graduatecollege@drexel.edu

DREXEL EMERGING GRADUATE SCHOLARS CONFERENCE 2019

The annual [Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars Conference](#), a free, student-run, University-wide conference highlighting Drexel's most impactful graduate student research was held on April 10 & 11, 2019. With close to 400 people registered and nearly 300 attendees, this year's conference was the biggest and most successful yet.

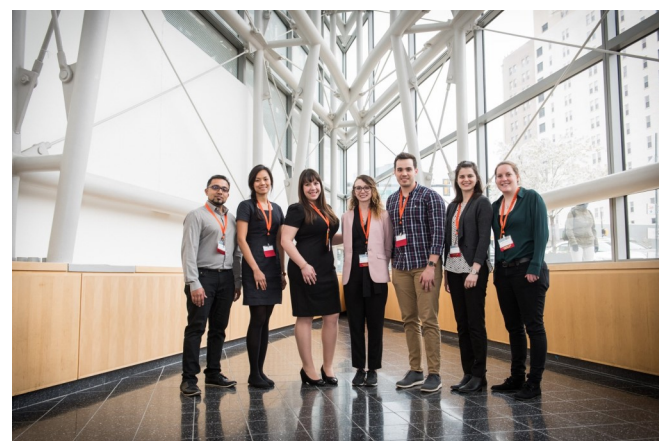
The conference is sponsored by the Office of Research, Graduate College and Graduate Student Association, with support from campus partners, Student Life and Alumni Relations. All Drexel students, postdocs, faculty, professional staff, alumni and guests are invited to attend. This year, the conference spanned over two days and included an alumni networking reception.

This year's [keynote speaker](#) was Sara Brenner, MD, MPH, a preventive medicine and public health physician and tenured faculty member at the SUNY Polytechnic Institute Colleges of Nanoscale Science & Engineering where she is an Associate Professor of Nanobioscience and the Assistant Vice President for NanoHealth Initiatives. She is currently working in Washington DC, serving as a Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy with a broad portfolio in biomedical science, technology, and human health. Dr. Brenner spent some additional time with our graduate student leaders after her keynote talking with them about her experience and how they can hone their professional and networking skills through co-curricular experiences, like the conference.

The conference is an established annual tradition at Drexel, celebrating the great work of the graduate community.

DEGS by the Numbers:

- **300** attendees
- **1** [keynote speaker](#)
- **52** [research poster presentations](#)
- **20** [oral research presentations](#)
- **7** [Three Minute Thesis \(3MT®\) competitors](#)
- **60** volunteer postdoc, alumni, faculty and professional staff judges
- **2** networking receptions
- **3** [pre-conference professional development workshops](#), including abstract writing, oral and research poster presentation, and networking skills



DREXEL EMERGING GRADUATE SCHOLARS CONFERENCE 2019



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 DEGS CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS!

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR BEST THREE MINUTE THESIS (3MT®)

Travis Pollen

PhD Program, Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions

Risk Factors for Injury in Swimmers

THREE MINUTE THESIS (3MT®) PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Genymphas Higgs

PhD Program, Biomedical Engineering, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems

Real World: Medical Device Edition

PROVOST'S AWARD FOR BEST ORAL RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Lauren Johnson

PhD Program, Clinical Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences

Problem-Solving Approach to Veteran Suicides

SECOND PLACE ORAL RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Matthew Kearney

DrPH Program, Community Health and Prevention, Dornsife School of Public Health

How do Twitter Users Discuss Electronic Vaping Products?

DEAN'S AWARD FOR BEST RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATION

Karly Soldner

PhD Program, Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering

Monitoring Rain Garden Soil Moisture with IoT

SECOND PLACE FOR RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATION

Jennifer Jakubowski

MS Program, Biomedical Science, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems

Compression of Cytology Virtual Slides

For more information about the DEGS Conference, including a list of participants, videos, and event photos, visit the [Graduate College website!](#)

GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

OVERVIEW

The [Graduate Student Association \(GSA\)](#) is the governing body for all graduate [student organizations](#) registered with [Student Life](#) and serves all graduate students across Drexel's colleges and schools. The Executive Board Members of the GSA are nominated and elected by current Drexel students annually in the spring and serve for one fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). In collaboration with the Graduate College, Student Life and various academic and student support offices University-wide, the GSA and its daughter organizations host hundreds of programs and events for graduate students each year. These events meet the many interests of the graduate student population at Drexel and bring together students, postdocs, faculty and professional staff across academic disciplines and organizations. From research symposiums, academic panels, interdisciplinary workshops, and writing boot camps to ski trips, white water rafting, intramural sports, cultural events and social events, there is something for everyone. All graduate students (and in some cases undergraduates, postdocs, alumni, faculty and professional staff) are encouraged to participate in GSA and daughter organizations' programs and events.



2018-2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

President

Alexandria Will-Cole
PhD Program in Materials Science and Engineering
College of Engineering

Vice President of Student Life

Melvin Mathew
PhD Program in Mechanical Engineering
College of Engineering

Vice President of Academic Affairs

May Cheung
PhD Program in Nutrition Sciences
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Vice President of Finance

Kelley Commeford
PhD Program in Physics
College of Arts and Sciences

Vice President of Operations

Michael Cimorelli
PhD Program in Chemical Engineering
College of Engineering

Public Relations Officer

Karly Soldner
PhD Program in Environmental Engineering
College of Engineering

Diversity and Inclusion Officer

Shamala Criswell
MS Program in Biomedical Science
School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems

Office: Main Building, Room 010, Lower Level
Email: dsogsa@drexel.edu

GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

2018-2019 GSA INITIATIVES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- This year, the Graduate Student Association (GSA) and daughter organizations moved under the umbrella of Student Life, which has streamlined budget allocations and daily operations, including event planning processes. The Graduate College remains a close partner of the GSA and daughter organizations, collaborating on annual programs and events, such as Graduate Student Orientation, Scholars Share, the Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars Conference and Graduate Student Day.
- In January, two Executive Board Members of the GSA, Karly Soldner and Melvin Mathew, were selected to be part of Drexel's Homecoming Court. In addition, the GSA participated in several Homecoming events, including the window decorating contest and team quizzo. *Read this DrexelNow [article](#) about Homecoming*
- The GSA also collaborated with the College of Medicine's GSAs and the Drexel Postdoctoral Association to host a series of career workshops.
- The GSA Executive Board Members were active participants on several University-wide committees, working with leadership to develop graduate policies and procedures and cultivate resources for graduate students. Their input on key issues affecting graduate students, such as student health insurance plans, stipends, vacation, sick and leave policies for graduate students, improving graduate spaces on campus, and improving the overall graduate student experience, was essential to the success of many working groups.
- The GSA also developed a graduate student affordability survey to which nearly 700 students responded, one of a series of forthcoming surveys helping the GSA and graduate leadership evaluate and address areas of improvement in graduate student life.
- This year, the GSA and daughter organizations put a focus on the overall health and wellness of graduate students, hosting communication, negotiation, conflict resolution, and relationship workshops, rec power hours, pop-up meditation, dance therapy, yoga and more.



GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

2018-2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

President

Saurajyoti Kar

PhD Program in Environmental Engineering

College of Engineering

Treasurer

Aleksandra Kirilakha

PhD Program in Economics

School of Economics, LeBow College of Business

Secretary

Swarnendu Chatterjee

PhD Program in Chemical Engineering

College of Engineering

Director of Academic Affairs

Apeksha Jain Ramesh Kumar

MS Program in Biotechnology

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies

College of Medicine

Deputy Director of Academic Affairs

Guangzi Song

MS Program in Biostatistics

Dornsife School of Public Health

Vice President of Student Life

Mona Albalawi

MS Program in Information Systems

College of Computing and Informatics

Director of Social Events

Rucha Nikale

MS Program in Biomedical Engineering

School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems

Director of Sports

Tanja Kirmse

PhD Program in Business Administration

LeBow College of Business

Director of Public Relations

Xiaoxiao Liu

MS Program in Fashion Design

Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

Director of Technology

Kartikeyan Venkatasubramanian

MS Program in Computer Engineering

College of Engineering

Email: dsoigsa@drexel.edu



Members of the IGSA, ISSS and Graduate College host informational webinars for incoming international graduate students each summer before students arrive on campus in the fall. Topics include what to bring, what to wear, how to get settled upon arrival and how to prepare for the academic rigor of Drexel's graduate programs.

GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

2018-2019 IGSA INITIATIVES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Drexel welcomed 342 new international graduate students this fall with over 300 studying on campus. Before they arrived, the International Graduate Student Association (IGSA), with the Graduate College, International Students and Scholars Services (ISSS), and the Office of Health Insurance and Immunizations, hosted a series of onboarding webinars in August to help students prepare for life in the U.S. and Philadelphia and for graduate education at Drexel. Topics of discussion ranged from what to bring and how to register for classes to campus safety and culture in the U.S. Nearly 100 students participated.
- The IGSA, with the Graduate College, created an ‘unofficial’ guide for incoming international graduate students. The guide provides an overview of life in the U.S. and Philadelphia highlighting local attractions and dining, and includes student-to-student information and advice about traveling to the U.S., banking, housing, transportation, and more. Visit the [Graduate College website](#) to download the guide!
- The IGSA, with the Graduate College and campus partners, offered a series of co-curricular experiences for international graduate students to help them navigate Drexel resources and prepare for the next steps in their careers. Activities included shopping trips, excursions, holiday celebrations (both U.S. and international), intercultural communications training, and workshops on resume writing, employment options, and scholarly writing.
- The IGSA hosted their second annual Festival of Nations event with the Campus Activities Board (CAB) (*pictured below*). The event is a celebration of the diverse backgrounds and cultures of Drexel students, featuring cultural student organizations, food, games, and performances.



GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

2018-2019 GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Chemical and Biological Engineering Graduate Student Association (CBEGSA)

Communication, Culture, and Media Association of Doctoral Students

Chemistry Graduate Student Association (CGSA)

College of Computing and Informatics Doctoral Student Association (CCIDSA)

Drexel Biomedical Graduate Association (DBGA)

Drexel Black Graduate Student Union (DBGSU)

Drexel Graduate Women in Science and Engineering (DGWISE)

Drexel IEEE Graduate (DIG) Forum

Drexel Preconception Peer Educators

Drexel University Library & Archives Student Association

Health Management and Policy (HMP) Club

International Graduate Student Association (IGSA)

Materials Research Society (MRS)

Maternal and Child Health Student Organization at Drexel University

Mechanical Engineering Graduate Student Association (MEGA)

Minorities and Women in Physics Society (MaWiPS)

Graduate Student Association (GSA)

Physics Graduate Student Association (PGSA)

PRAGATHI- The Indian Graduate Student Association

Public Health Doctoral Students Advisory Group

Student Government Organization (SGO) of the School of Public Health (SPH)

Wilbur W. Oaks Physician Assistant Student Society

Total: 22



TECK-KAH LIM TRAVEL SUBSIDY AWARD 2018-2019

The Graduate College and Graduate Student Association (GSA) offer a limited number of [Teck-Kah Lim Graduate Student Domestic Travel Subsidy Awards](#) annually to encourage graduate student participation in academic meetings and conferences held within the United States and territories. These awards not only strengthen the academic and professional skills of our students, preparing them to be leaders in their fields, but also increase the awareness of the exceptional graduate work happening at Drexel.

The Teck-Kah Lim Travel Award Fund was created in 2016 in honor of Teck-Kah Lim, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Physics and former Associate Vice Provost of Graduate Studies to expand conference travel opportunities for Drexel's graduate students.

In 2018-2019, more than **70 students** received awards ranging from \$200—\$600 exceeding **\$30,000**. Award-ees traveled to cities across the country including Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Honolulu, Nashville, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Seattle. In addition, many went on to win conference awards and network with field and industry leaders and potential employers.

Janna Domenico

PhD Program in Chemistry

2018 Materials Research Society Fall Meeting & Exhibit

November 25-30, 2018

Boston, Massachusetts

Oral & Poster: "Effect of Solvent and Substrate on the Surface Binding Mode of Carboxylate-Functionalized Aromatic Molecules"

The travel award gave Janna the opportunity to network with potential employers. Janna won the MRS Graduate Student Gold Award!



Jillian Hawkins

PhD Program in Rehabilitations Sciences

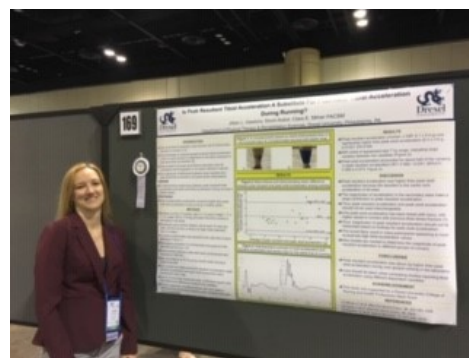
American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting

May 28-June 1, 2019

Orlando, Florida

Poster: "Is Peak Resultant Acceleration A Substitute For Peak Axial Acceleration During Running?"

The travel award allowed Jillian to focus on networking with her peers and potential employers without worrying about the financial burden of additional meals. She also won a biomechanics interest group travel award!



Tony Yu

PhD Program in Biomedical Engineering

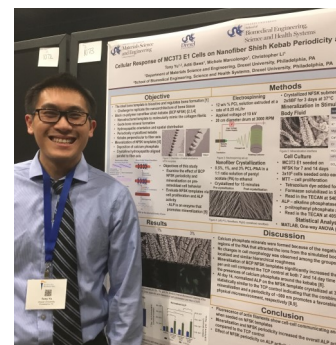
Society for Biomaterials Annual Meeting

April 3-6, 2019

Seattle, Washington

Poster: "Cellular Response of MC3T3 E1 Cells on Nanofiber Shish Kebab Periodicity and Size"

Tony would not have been able to attend the meeting without the travel award and is very grateful for the opportunity to receive valuable feedback from his peers, as well as top professionals in his field. He was also able to hone his presentation skills by talking with attendees about his work.



GRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2018-2019

Each year, the Graduate College recognizes graduate students across Drexel's Colleges and Schools for mentorship, scholarship, civic engagement, research, dissertation, and teaching through the [Graduate Student Excellence Awards and Teaching Assistant Excellence Awards](#). Students are recognized at the annual Graduate Student Day awards ceremony and reception which was held on Thursday, May 30, 2019. Here are this year's awardees:

OUTSTANDING MENTORSHIP AWARDS

Jackeline Moreno

PhD Program in Physics
College of Arts and Sciences

Jasmine Peake

PhD Program in Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics
Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Professional Studies
College of Medicine

DREXEL COMMON GOOD AWARDS

Mona Elgohail - Scholarship

PhD Program in Clinical Psychology
College of Arts and Sciences

Read about Mona's work in this [DrexelNow article](#)

Cameron McConkey - Civic Engagement

Executive Master's Program in Public Health
Dornsife School of Public Health

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Krzysztof Mazur—Master's

Master's Program in Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics
College of Engineering

Md Rasheduzzaman—Pre-Candidacy

PhD Program in Environmental Engineering
College of Engineering

Hallie Espel-Huynh—Post-Candidacy

PhD Program in Clinical Psychology
College of Arts and Sciences

Chelsea Myers—Post-Candidacy

PhD Program in Digital Media
Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

Xiaohan Zhou—Most Original & Creative

Master's Program in Fashion Design
Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARDS

Julia Hildebrand

PhD Program in Communication, Culture and Media
College of Arts and Sciences

Claire Witherel

PhD Program in Biomedical Engineering
School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems

TECK-KAH LIM AWARD

Ali Jazayeri

PhD Program in Information Sciences
College of Computing and Informatics



GRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2018-2019

TEACHING ASSISTANT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Jae Young Choi

PhD Program in Business Administration, Management
LeBow College of Business

Katherine Fiocca

PhD Program in Biology
College of Arts and Sciences

Rini Jose

PhD Program in Epidemiology
Dornsife School of Public Health

Yirui Liu

PhD Program in Electrical Engineering
College of Engineering

M. Marie Mastrobattista

Master's Program in Interior Architecture and Design and Design Research
Westphal College of Media Arts and Design

Gregory Niedt

PhD Program in Communication, Culture and Media
College of Arts and Sciences

Matthew Self

Master's Program in Human Nutrition
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Zhengqiao Zhao

PhD Program in Electrical Engineering
College of Engineering

Yuyun Zhong

PhD Program in Business Administration
LeBow College of Business

Dongen Bradley Zhou

PhD Program in Electrical Engineering
College of Engineering

CONTINUING EXCELLENCE

Pedro Edson Martins Amaral

PhD Program in Chemistry
College of Arts and Sciences

Meghan Barrett

PhD Program in Biological Sciences
College of Arts and Sciences

GRADUATE COLLEGE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Michael R. Clancy, MBA, CFP, CLU

Director of Financial Planning
Division of Medical Education
College of Medicine

Stephen Cox

Director, Regional Alliance, Undergraduate Education
Project Director, Greater Philadelphia Region
Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (Philadelphia AMP)
Center for the Advancement of STEM Teaching and Learning Excellence (CASTLE)

Alexis Finger, MA

Associate Teaching Professor of English
Department of English and Philosophy
College of Arts and Sciences

Giuseppe Salomone, PhD

University Registrar

The 2018-2019 Executive Board of the Graduate Student Association (GSA)

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION AWARDS 2018-2019

MOST INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATION

International Graduate Student Association (IGSA)

MOST COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATION

Physics Graduate Student Association (PGSA)

MOST ACADEMICALLY DRIVEN ORGANIZATION

Drexel Graduate Women in Science and Engineering (DGWISE)

GRADUATE COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

Biology Graduate Student Association (BGSA)

SCHOLARS SHARE AWARD

Sarah Gleeson

PhD Program in Materials Science and Engineering

College of Engineering

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL STAFF MENTOR AWARDS

Marisa Dietrich, EdM

Former Program Coordinator

Center for the Advancement of STEM Teaching and Learning Excellence (CASTLE)

Sandra Strang, EdM

Communications and Events Manager

Graduate College

OUTSTANDING FACULTY MENTOR AWARD

Yury Gogotsi, PhD

Distinguished University and Charles T. and Ruth M. Bach Professor

Department of Materials Science and Engineering

College of Engineering



GRADUATE STUDENT DAY 2019

[Graduate Student Day](#), hosted by the Graduate Student Association (GSA), Student Life and the Graduate College is an annual occasion recognizing the outstanding contributions of graduate students and their faculty and professional staff mentors to the mission of the University especially within the classroom, lab, community and beyond.

During the celebratory event, the Graduate College recognizes high-achieving graduate students with [Graduate Student Excellence Awards](#) across disciplines in mentorship (*sponsored by the Office of Undergraduate Research*), service (*sponsored by the Lindy Center for Civic Engagement*), research and teaching. Likewise, the GSA honors outstanding graduate student leaders, student organizations, and faculty and professional staff mentors with awards. A reception with hors d'oeuvres and refreshments then follows.

This year, Graduate Student Day took place on Thursday, May 30, 2019 in Mitchell Auditorium, Bossone Research Enterprise Center. There was a cultural dance performance by Pragathi—The Indian Graduate Student Association. Here is a [complete list of award winners](#). View the complete ceremony on [YouTube](#). View event photos on [Flickr](#) and on our [Facebook page](#).



Read this DrexelNow article to learn more: [Graduate Student Excellence Celebration at 2019 Graduate Student Day](#)

DOCTORAL STUDENT CELEBRATION & COMMENCEMENT 2019

To honor the achievements of doctoral degree recipients (PhD, DNP, DrPH, DPT, DHSc, EdD), the Graduate College welcomes faculty, professional staff, graduating doctoral students and their guests to attend a celebratory reception each year in June.

This year's celebration took place on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 and featured remarks from Provost Blake, Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, Vice Provost for Graduate Education, and Assistant Dean, Natalie Marciano. Visit [the website](#) for more event photos.



This year's distinguished alumni speaker was **David Diaz, PhD '16**. Dr. Diaz graduated from Drexel University in 2016 with a PhD in biomedical engineering and a focus in biomedical optics from the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems. While at Drexel, David worked in the Biomedical Optics Laboratory under the supervision of the late Dr. Elisabeth Papazoglou and subsequently, under the supervision of Dr. Peter Lewin and Dr. Leonid Zubkov, with guidance from Dr. Michael Neidrauer. David is currently working as a Clinical Research Project Manager at Kelly OCG servicing DePuy Synthes Companies in West Chester, Pennsylvania. *Read the full bio on the Graduate [College website](#).*



Nearly 2,000 graduate students graduated in the fall, winter and spring quarters

100 PhDs + 112 Doctorates + 1,571 Master's + 192 Certificates

The Graduate College helped support eight College and School [Commencement ceremonies](#) on June 13-14, 2019, in addition to leading the procession of graduates at the University-wide celebration at Citizens Bank Park Friday, June 14, 2019.

[Recap of Commencement 2019](#)

Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

#ForeverDragons



CELEBRATING WOMEN LEADERS

This year, the Graduate College has had the privilege of working with so many strong women leaders, including graduate students. We wanted to take this opportunity to highlight their work and to thank them for inspiring others in the graduate community at Drexel!



March 2019— Women's Empowerment Summit

Featuring eight female deans of Drexel University sharing their stories of challenge and breakthrough, both in their personal and professional lives



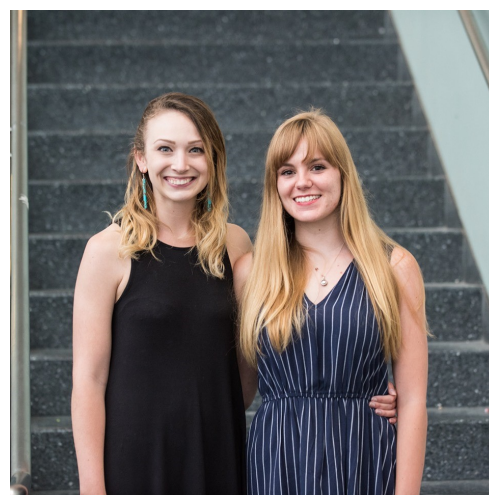
May 2018— Women in Science Panel

Featuring women graduate student researchers, postdocs, faculty and University leadership engaging in important conversations about being a woman in STEM research and related fields and the unique challenges and opportunities they face.



April 2019— Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars Conference

(Left) Keynote speaker, Dr. Sara Brenner, leader in preventative medicine and public health and Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy with (right) Vice President for Academic Affairs of the Graduate Student Association, May Cheung, PhD Candidate in Nutrition Sciences and DEGS Conference Committee Planning Committee



May 2019— Graduate Student Day

(Left) Outgoing GSA President, Alexandria Will-Cole, makes way for Incoming GSA President, Karly Soldner

May 2019— [Penny Hammrich, PhD, Named Dean of School of Education](#)

March 2019— [Norma Bouchard Appointment Dean of College of Arts and Sciences](#)

October 2018— [Q&A: Sharon Walker, First Female Dean of the College of Engineering](#)

August 2018— [Graduate College, Global Initiatives, Undergraduate Educations Moves Announced](#)

August 2018— [11th Street Health Center Welcomes New Director](#) Roberta Waite (Right)



LOOKING AHEAD

As we reflect on the 2018-2019 Academic Year, we acknowledge our graduate student leaders, faculty, professional staff and campus partners who help us support nearly 8,000 graduate students on campus and online. We are proud to work with a small, but highly motivated team of individuals to support graduate students and scholars.

In the coming year, the Graduate College will continue to support the advancement of graduate education at Drexel, developing in-demand programs and initiatives to support graduate student success beyond the academic programs and advocating for the needs of graduate students and postdocs University-wide.

Goals include:

- Develop an online onboarding community for graduate students, connecting them to Drexel resources and informing them of important policies, procedures, and co-curricular opportunities
- Launch an online TA training program
- Continue to evaluate existing graduate policies and procedures and develop best practices for advising, mentoring and graduate handbooks
- Enhance professional and career development programs to help graduate students hone their skills in networking, presentation, job search and career exploration, managing personal and professional relationships, understanding personal finance, and practicing self care
- Increase support for graduate student travel to national meetings and conferences and provide support for additional professional development opportunities
- Work with the academic units to increase graduate student stipends to align with national averages giving Drexel a more competitive edge
- Increase funding for the recruitment of highly qualified candidates to all of Drexel's doctoral and PhD programs through the Graduate College Doctoral Fellowships
- Continue to develop policies and procedures that support graduate student success and retention
- Work more closely with senior leadership to identify areas of improvement in the graduate student experience

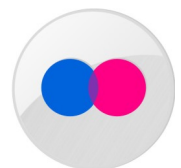
We look forward to working together to make the 2019-2020 academic year the best one yet!

-The Staff of the Graduate College





FOLLOW THE GRADUATE COLLEGE



[Instagram.com/drexelgraduatecollege](https://www.instagram.com/drexelgraduatecollege)

[Facebook.com/DrexelGraduateCollege](https://www.facebook.com/DrexelGraduateCollege)

[Twitter.com/DrexelGradColl](https://twitter.com/DrexelGradColl)

[LinkedIn.com/company/The-Graduate-College-of-Drexel-University](https://www.linkedin.com/company/The-Graduate-College-of-Drexel-University)

YouTube Channel: Drexel Graduate College

[Flickr.com/photos/drexelogs](https://www.flickr.com/photos/drexelogs)



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Graduate
College

3141 Chestnut Street, Main Building, Suite 301, Philadelphia, PA 19104
Tel: 215.895.0366 | Fax: 215.895.0495 | Email: graduatecollege@drexel.edu
drexel.edu/graduatecollege