



ANNUAL REPORT

Academic Year 2019-2020



2019-2020 Graduate College Doctoral Fellows on the steps of Main Building joined by graduate faculty and leadership

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INTRODUCTION

A Message from the Senior Vice President for Graduate and Online Education

The Graduate College is proud to present our second annual report as we enter our sixth year of operation. In this report, you will find a summary of the activities and accomplishments of the graduate and postdoctoral communities from the 2019-2020 Academic Year, as well as an outline of programs and initiatives led by the Graduate College, many in collaboration with our academic and 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 think of the resilience of our graduate and postdoctoral communities as we continue to face the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, racial injustice and inequality, ever-changing immigration policies, the uncertainty of how we will work and learn in the coming academic year, and the list goes on. I am incredibly proud of our ability to adapt, adjust and come together as a community to support one another.

This year, we announced our formal partnership with [Drexel University Online](#). This partnership has allowed us to coordinate our approach to optimizing graduate recruitment, enrollment and experience, both on campus and online.

This fall, we partnered with the American Society of Cell Biology (ASCB), Philadelphia area universities, industry partners, Drexel's colleges and schools, alumni, postdocs and graduate student organizations to host an ASCB Early Career Meeting "[Building Bridges Between Academia and Industry](#)" (p. 17). We fundraised nearly \$13,000 for the event which helped subsidize the cost of attendance for graduate students and postdocs. The event provided an opportunity to network with industry professionals and explore a wide range of career pathways.

Working alongside the Executive Board of the Graduate Student Association (p. 29), whose mission is to provide diverse and broad-based academic and co-curricular programming and to advocate for the interests and address concerns of graduate students, we have partnered on a wide range of events during the 2019-2020 Academic Year. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we hosted the first virtual [Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars \(DEGS\) Conference](#), a free, student-led conference in the spring (p. 27). We have also formed a graduate [Diversity Advisory Council](#) to address issues of systemic racism within our community (p. 10). The council will work closely with [Drexel's Anti-Racism Task Force](#) led by Kim Gholston, associate vice president and chief diversity officer. This year's GSA also worked hard to advocate for increased PhD student stipends and additional clarification of policies related to working hours. As a result, we have formed a PhD Project Working Group (p. 10) to address the needs of our PhD students who are integral to the [University's R1 status](#).

Throughout the year, we have celebrated our graduate student and postdoc successes and provided them with support and guidance during these 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.

Warm Regards,

Elisabeth J. Van Bockstaele, PhD
Senior Vice President for Graduate and Online Education
Dean, Graduate College
Founding 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 J. Van Bockstaele, PhD, Senior Vice President for

Graduate and Online Education and Dean, 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 nearly 30 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



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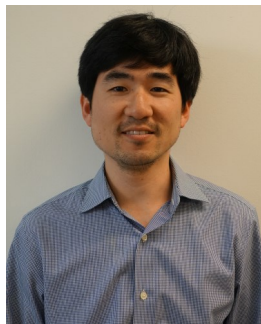
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Assistant Professor

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MEET THE GRADUATE COLLEGE STAFF

2019-2020 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

Senior, BSBA Program in International Business
LeBow College of Business

Moira Chau

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

Mizuki Davis*

Senior, 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

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

Annie Huong

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

Jasmine Jones*

Senior, BSN Program in Nursing
Minor in Communication
Certificate in Writing and Publishing
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Amber Liu

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

Aileen Lo

Senior, BSN Program in Nursing
College of Nursing and Health Professions

Dru Martin

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

Rucksar Rahman

Senior, BSBA Program in Finance
Minor in Legal Studies– Business
LeBow College of Business

**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.

2019-2020 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chair: Elisabeth J. Van Bockstaele, Senior Vice President for Graduate and Online Education and Dean of the Graduate College, Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine
Murugan Anandarajan, LeBow College of Business
Stephanie Brooks, College of Nursing and Health Professions
Natalie Chernets, Graduate College, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine
Sean Chung, Drexel University Online
Kapil Dandekar, College of Engineering
Kimberly David-Chung, Drexel University Online, Student Life, Graduate College
Rose Ann DiMaria-Ghalili, College of Nursing and Health Professions
Michelle Dolinski, College of Arts and Sciences
Brian Ellis, Bennett S. LeBow College of Business
Melissa Englund, College of Computing and Informatics*
Nadine Ezzat, Drexel University Online
William Fenton, College of Engineering*
Aroutis Foster, School of Education
Kea Glenn, International Students and Scholars Services
Bevin Goodniss, College of Computing and Informatics*
Beth Haas, Thomas R. Kline School of Law
Sarah Haley, Bennett S. LeBow College of Business
Michael Harrington, Drexel University Online
Joseph Hawk, Assessment and Accreditation
Stephanie Johnson, Thomas R. Kline School of Law
Niki Kelley, Bennett S. LeBow College of Business*
David Kim, Graduate College
Andres Kriete, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems
Michele Kutzler, College of Medicine
Tsz Kwok, Graduate College
Christopher Laincz, Bennett S. LeBow College of Business
Sherry Levin, College of Engineering
Jade Lo, Bennett S. LeBow College of Business

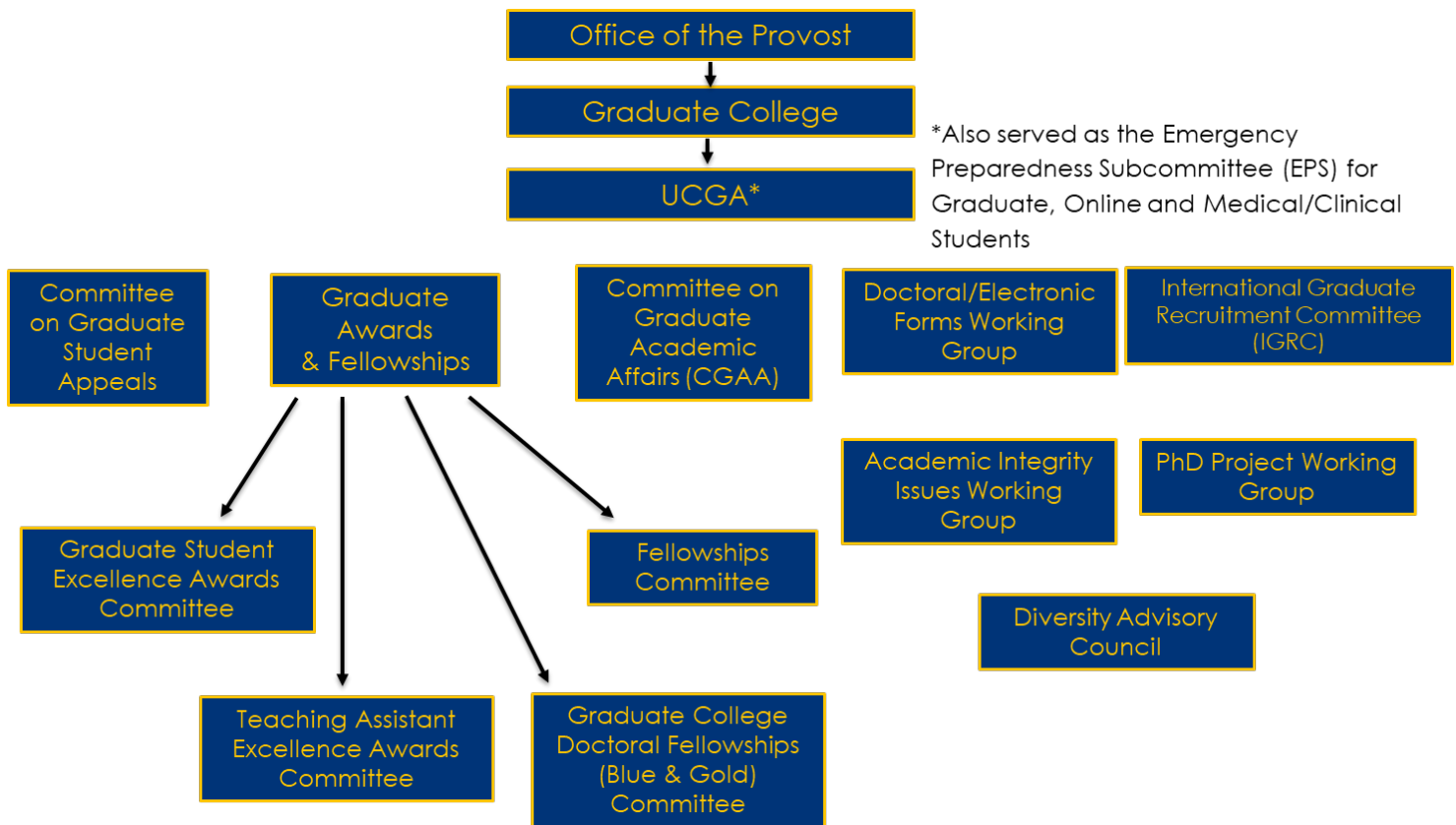
Brenna Martin, College of Computing and Informatics*
Annette Molyneux, Counseling and Health
Angela Montgomery, Graduate Admissions, Enrollment Management and Student Success
Kymberlee Montgomery, College of Nursing and Health Professions
Alis Panzera, College of Nursing and Health Professions*
Melissa Richman, Graduate College, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, College of Medicine
Debra Ruben, Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts and Design
Michael Ryan, Graduate College, College of Engineering
Damian Salas, Close School of Entrepreneurship
Giuseppe Salomone, University Registrar
Maria Schultheis, Office of Research and Innovation
Michael Shelmet, Office of Information Technology
Ali Shokoufandeh, College of Computing and Informatics
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
Sandra Strang, Graduate College
Stephanie Sutcliffe, Drexel University Online
Mladenka Tomasevic, International Students and Scholars Services
Michael Wagner, Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts and Design
Rebecca Weidensaul, Enrollment Management and Student Success
Anne Converse Willkomm, Goodwin College of Professional Studies
Katie Zamulinsky, Student Life*

**Additional members added for participation on the Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee for Graduate, Online and Medical/Clinical Students*

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (UCGA)

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE UCGA

The UCGA consists of several smaller committees and working groups to address a variety of challenges and opportunities for the graduate community at Drexel.



2019-2020 INITIATIVES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Launched a graduate professional development co-curricular program and pilot course, *Foundations of Career Management*, in collaboration with the Steinbright Career Development Center and Drexel University Online
- Launched a process for graduate student [cross-calendar registration](#) (quarter-to-semester and semester-to-quarter conversion)
- Collaborated on a review of accelerated degree program plans of study with the goal of ensuring compliance, strong pedagogy, optimal student experience, and alignment with the mission of the University
- Formed an Emergency Prepared Subcommittee (EPS) for Graduate, Online and Medical/Clinical Students to assist in response to and operational planning during the COVID-19 outbreak
- Revised several graduate policies and procedures and assisted in the implementation of a Pass/No Pass grading option, and making the necessary adjustments to Graduate Academic Standing and Transfer Credit policies and procedures
- Formed a graduate [Diversity Advisory Council](#) to address issues of institutional racism and inequality within the graduate community at Drexel, reporting to the University's [Anti-Racism Task Force](#)
- Launching a pilot of electronic PhD/doctoral forms (formerly know as doctoral or "D" forms) to track degree progression and milestones, along with a PhD/doctoral student handbook outlining related policies and procedures

COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (CGAA)

The Committee on Graduate Academic Affairs (CGAA) of the UCGA continues assists in reviewing and providing formal recommendations on University-wide graduate academic affairs, policies and procedures on behalf of Drexel's colleges and schools.



2019-2020 Chair: Michele Kutzler, PhD

Assistant Dean for Faculty Development

Associate Professor in the Departments of Medicine and Microbiology and Immunology

Drexel University College of Medicine

The committee is tasked with finding creative solutions to academic issues, helping review and navigate SCAA processes, identifying opportunities for revenue and resource sharing, reviewing existing graduate curriculum and academic standards, and developing best practices for policies and graduate handbooks.

Accomplishments for 2019-2020 include review of new undergraduate academic policies for alignment of graduate academic policies, revision of the time to degree completion and appeals process, additional considerations for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for part-time and semester students, review of the SCAA new program proposal process, incomplete (INC) grade policy and contract revision, guidance for handling course absences during the COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to remote learning, developing a working draft of a PhD/doctoral student handbook—and so much more!

Special thanks to Vibhas Madan, PhD, who served as Chair of the CGAA prior to his appointment as Interim Dean of the LeBow College of Business in November 2019.

2019-2020 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Michele Kutzler, College of Medicine

Kapil Dandekar, College of Engineering

Teresa Harrison, LeBow College of Business

Melissa Richman, 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

NEW INITIATIVES 2019-2020

PHD PROJECT WORKING GROUP

The Graduate College established the PhD Project Working Group to focus on issues related to PhD and doctoral-level student experience with a top priority of raising the minimum stipend University-wide to ~\$26,290, the estimated living wage in Philadelphia, among other goals (Ex: standardizing tuition and remission process, more transparency in tuition rates, billing, assistantship and fellowship assignments, clarification of working hours, etc.)

The group consists of graduate leadership from the Graduate College, Colleges and Schools, Enrollment Management and Student Success, Office of Research and Innovation, Office of Planning and Institutional Research, Office of Budget and Financial Planning, etc.

FORMATION OF A GRADUATE DIVERSITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

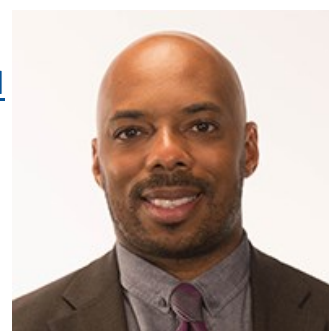
As an initial follow up to the Graduate College's [Virtual Dialogue About Race with the Graduate Community](#) on June 10, we have formed a graduate **Diversity Advisory Council** to address issues of institutional racism, unconscious bias and racial inequalities within the Drexel community, raise awareness of these issues, implement action items, and support our Black community members.

The council will liaise with and report to the University's [Anti-Racism Task Force](#), which President Fry announced following a University-wide dialogue on June 5. The task force will be led by Kimberly Gholston, Associate Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, in partnership with [Arountis Foster](#), Associate Professor of Education and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies in the School of Education, [Lucy Kerman](#), Senior Vice Provost for University and Community Partnerships, and [Subir Sahu](#), Senior Vice President for Student Success.

President Fry also announced the University's [Pledge to Address Systemic and Institutional Racism](#) in his message on June 12 and "calls for action: for a serious dialogue about systemic racism, a full accounting of the way institutional racism has affected all aspects of our society, and a clear action agenda that begins to change both policy and practice across this country."

The Diversity Advisory Council, co-chaired by faculty member, [Alonzo M. Flowers III](#), PhD, Associate Professor and Program Director of the PhD Program in the School of Education and graduate student leader, [Matthew Shirley](#), PhD student in Biomedical Engineering in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems, NSF Graduate Research Fellow and President of the Drexel Black Graduate Student Union (DBGSU), will help support these calls for action on behalf of the graduate community.

The Graduate College welcomes any graduate students, faculty or professional staff members who wishes to participate on the council to contact us at graduatecollege@drexel.edu.



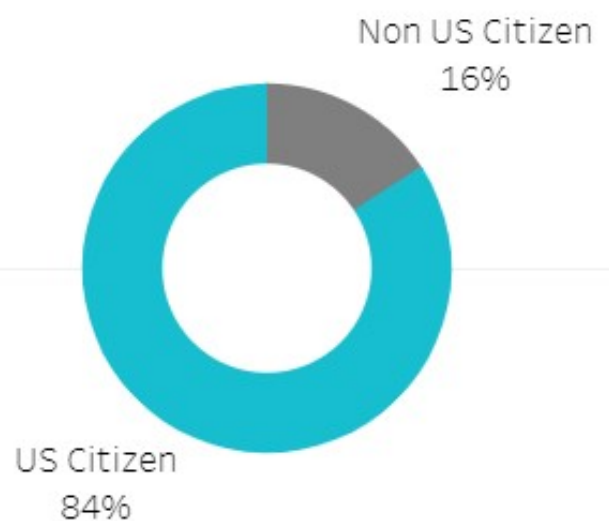
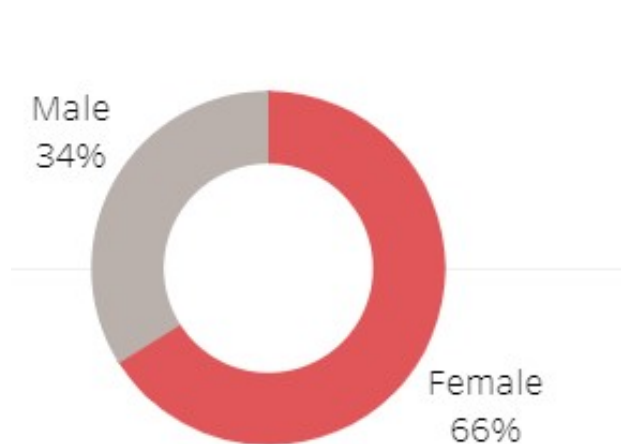
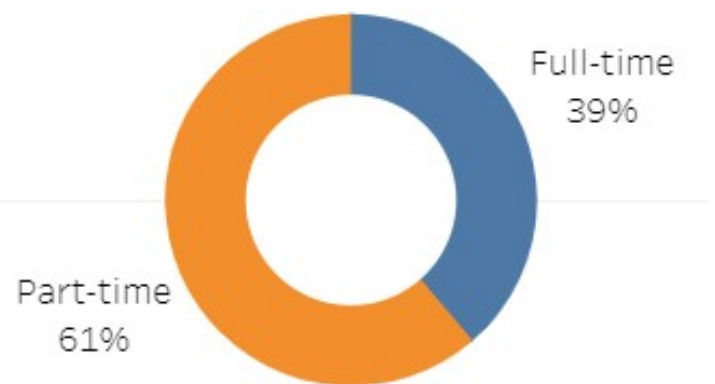
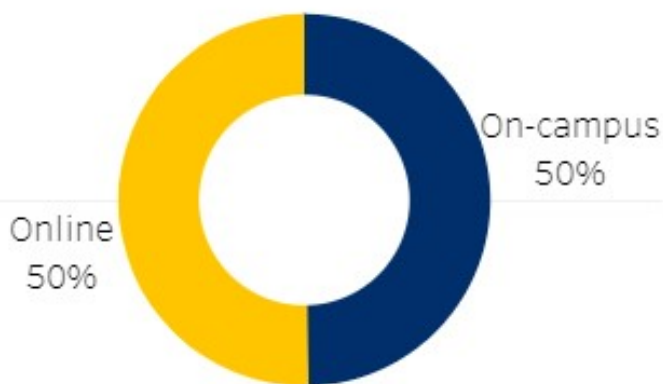
Alonzo Flowers III, PhD



Matthew Shirley

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT SUMMARY 2019-2020

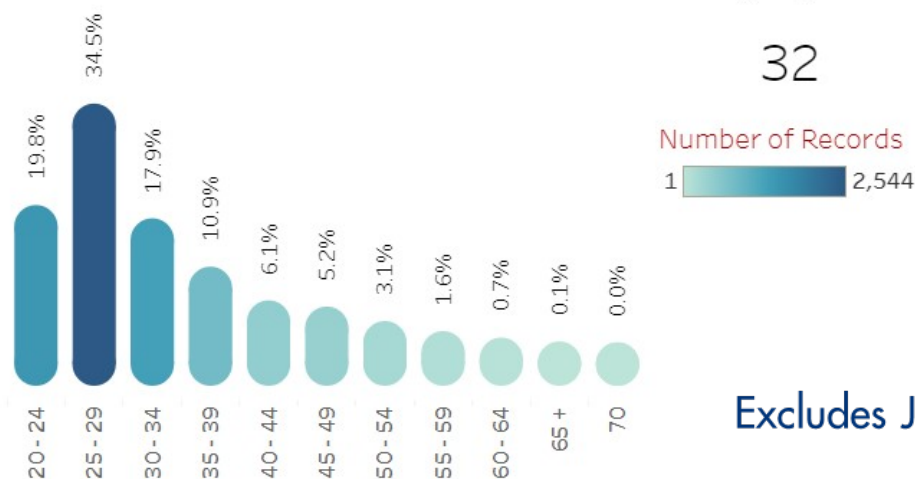
In Fall 2019, we had **7,379 graduate students** enrolled at Drexel University, including **2,457 new graduate students** and **405 new international graduate students**. This include all certificate (224 new), master's (1,839 new), professional doctorate (187 new) and PhD programs (186) (excludes JD and MD). See a complete [list of graduate programs](#).



Age distribution

Average age

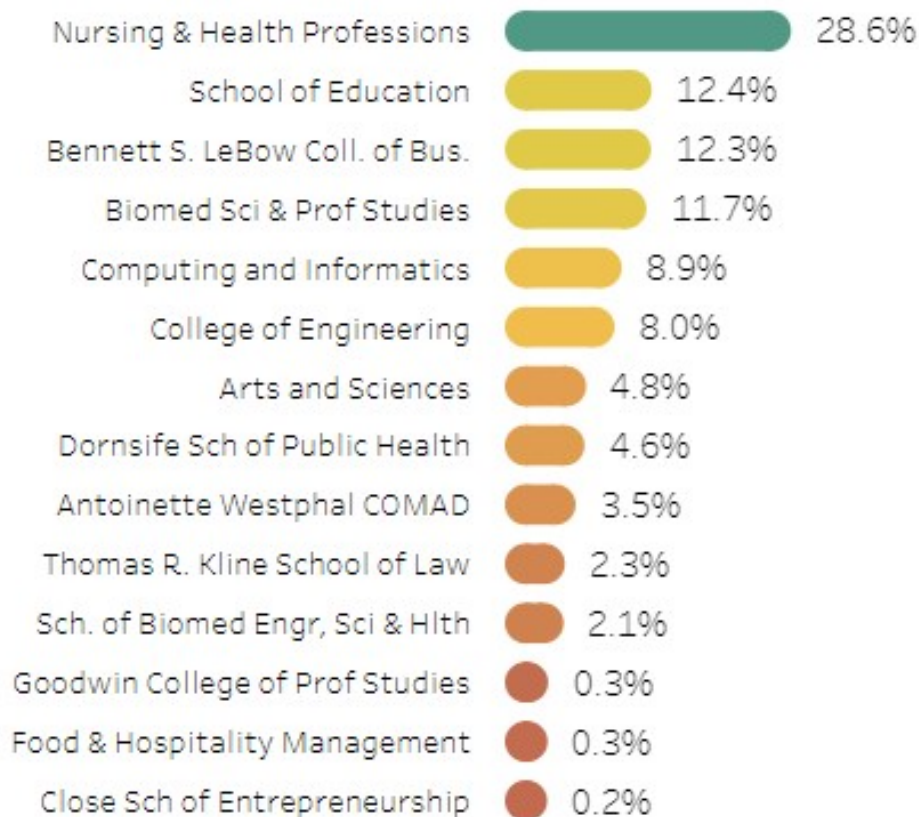
32



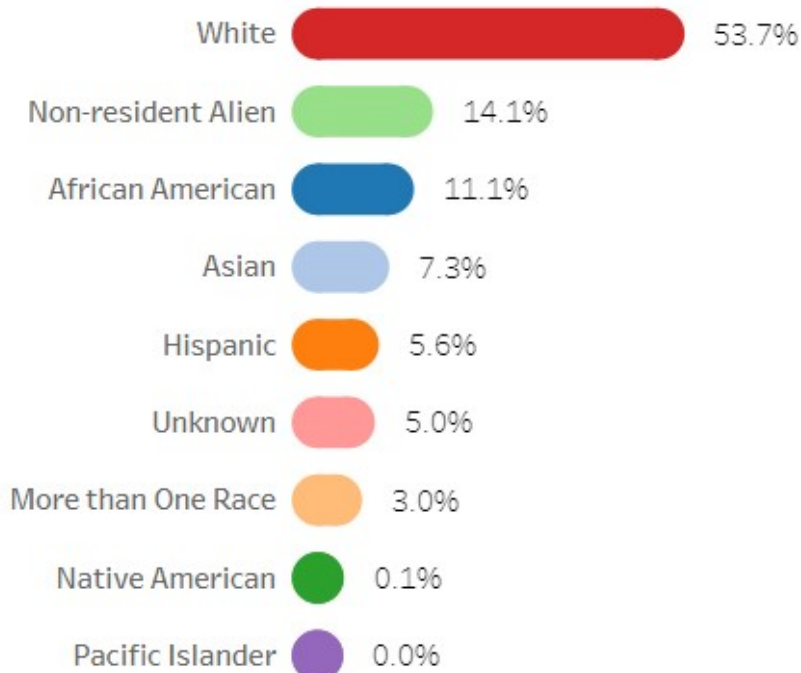
Excludes JD and MD

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT SUMMARY 2019-2020

College/school



Ethnicity/race



Excludes JD and MD

Graduate Key Facts

First-time, master's degree-seeking students

Admission Stats

Applicants
7,209
Acceptance rate
54.3%

Enrolled
1,839
Yield rate
46.9%

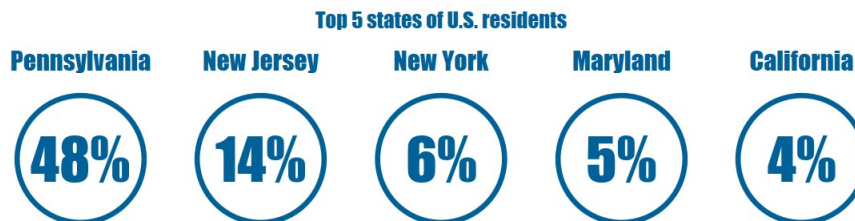
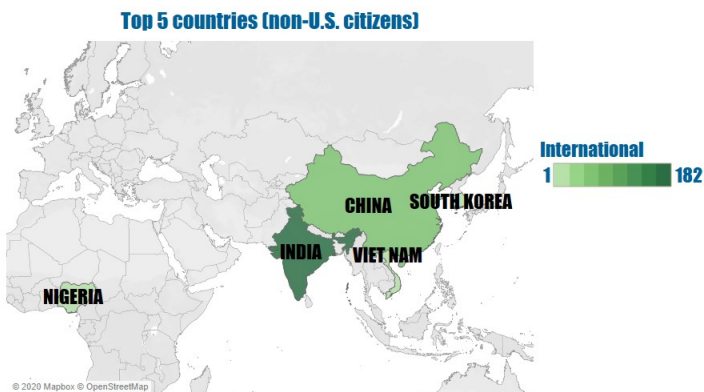
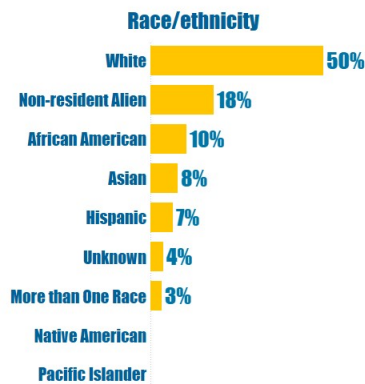
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2019
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(All)

Demographics

Gender
Female Male
65% **35%**

% on-campus
53%

% international
20%



Retention/graduation rates

One-year retained or graduated
(face-to-face)

89.0%

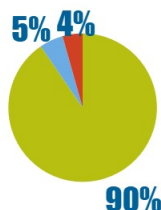
One-year retained or graduated
(online)

69.9%

One-year-out outcomes

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

Post-graduate outcomes



Overall job satisfaction
% satisfied, of those working FT



Average annual salary
(of those working FT)

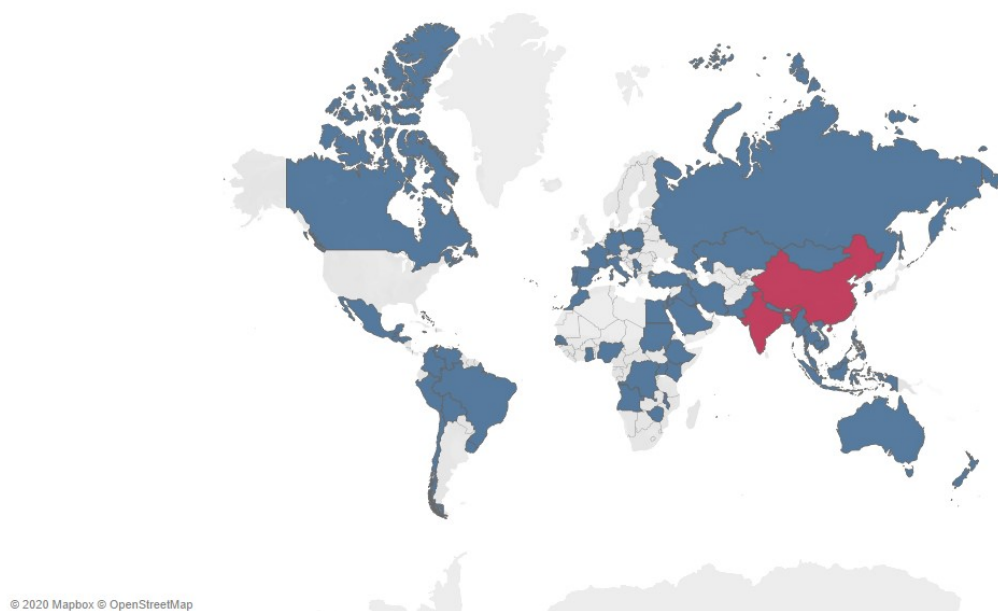
\$78,644

Employed
Graduate school
No work or school

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT SUMMARY 2019-2020

Where are international students coming from?

Fall 2019



Undergraduate/graduate
☒ Graduate
☐ Undergraduate

Continent
 All

Degree category
 All

Degree
 Multiple values

College
 All

Major
 Multiple values

Full-time/part-time status
 Full-time

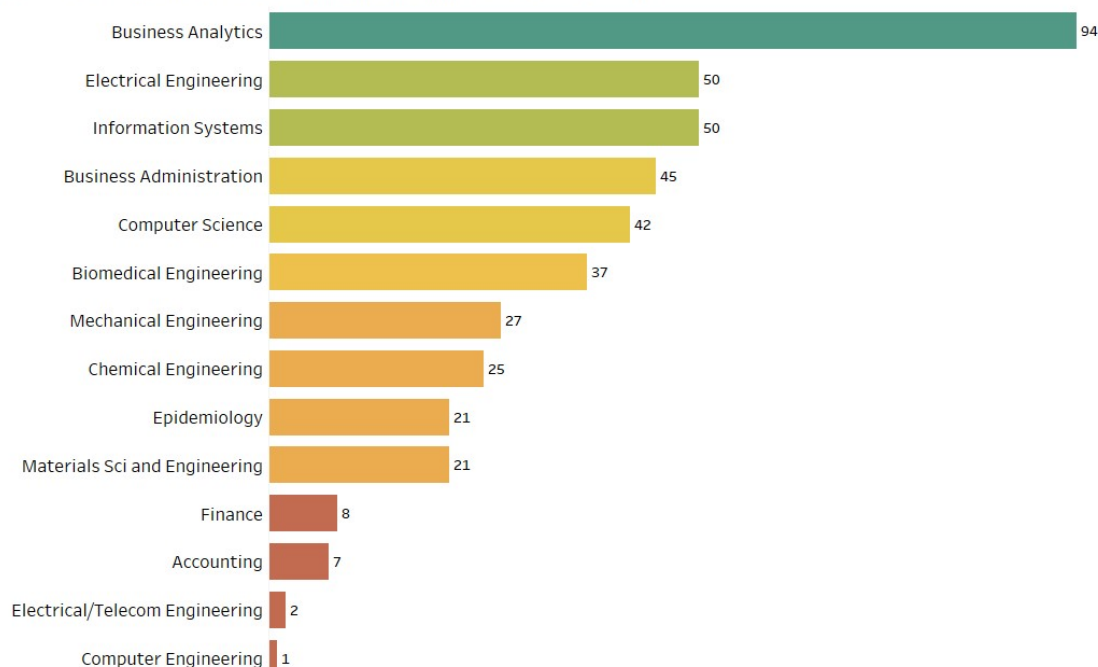
Face-to-face/Online
 Face-to-face

Fall Year
 2019

Number of Records
 1 308

International enrollment by major

Fall 2019 - Top 15 majors for Graduate, Full-time, Face-to-face students



Undergraduate/graduate
☒ Graduate
☐ Undergraduate

Degree category
 Multiple values

Full-time/part-time status
☒ Full-time
☐ Part-time

Face-to-face/Online
☒ Face-to-face
☐ Online

Fall Year
 2019

Top N majors
 (enter a value to modify list size)
 15

Number of Students
 1 94

Excludes JD and MD

GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION 2019

Traditionally, the Graduate College offers a series of [Graduate Student Orientation and Onboarding](#) programs each fall, both on campus and online, to welcome new, incoming graduate students studying in quarter programs, both on campus and online. The goal of these programs is to introduce students to the Graduate College's resources and services and provide students with a high-level overview of graduate studies at Drexel, academic and student support services, campus resources, facilities and graduate policies and procedures. On-campus events also provide opportunities for graduate students to network with graduate leadership, faculty and professional staff, graduate student organizations and peers.



On-Campus Orientation Programs & Events

Center City Graduate Student Orientation (CNHP) - Friday September 13, 2019

Registered: 214 Attended: 120 (56%) Online: 15

Graduate Student Welcome Fair—Monday, September 16, 2019

Registered: 359 Attended: 300 (83%)

GSA Welcome Social at The Post—Monday, September 16, 2019

Registered: 326 Attended: 250 (76%)

Online Orientation & Onboarding Initiatives

In addition to on campus programs, the Graduate College piloted an online graduate student orientation and onboarding community this fall. Overall, students were very satisfied with the online resources and strongly agree that they would refer back to it throughout their first year. The resource provides onboarding and compliance information and academic and campus resources within Blackboard Learn, Drexel's learning management system. Students can navigate the information at their own pace. The Graduate College will launch orientation and onboarding information for fall 2020 soon. It will also offer a virtual welcome fair in September. More to come!



TEACHING ASSISTANT ORIENTATION & INITIATIVES 2019-2020

Each year in the fall, the Graduate College offers onboarding and training for all new, incoming graduate student Teaching Assistants (TAs)/Teaching Fellows (TFs), in addition to ongoing professional development and training opportunities throughout the year.

This year, course instructors Mary Jo Grdina, PhD, Clinical Professor, and Valerie Klein, PhD, Assistant Clinical Professor in the School of Education and Chair of the 2019-2020 Teaching Assistant Excellence Awards Committee, the TA Orientation and TA Prep Course (GRAD T580) re-envisioned the course syllabus to offer more flexibility and welcomed a collaboration with the newly formed Center for Teaching and Learning under the direction of Johanna Inman. More than 60 TAs participated in the orientation programs in the fall.



Valerie Klein, PhD

Visit the [Graduate College website](#) for more information, including learning outcomes and course materials.

In addition to required sessions for new TAs/TFs, the Graduate College and Center for Teaching and Learning offered the general graduate population a series of professional development workshops centered around topics in teaching and learning, including:



Johanna Inman

- ♦ *“Why Aren’t Undergrads As Interested In This Stuff As I Am?”*
- ♦ *“Learning Is Not A Spectator Sport”*
- ♦ *“How To Grade Effectively Without Losing Sleep (Or Your Mind)”*

More information and workshop recordings can be found on the Graduate College’s [Coffee Hour Seminar Series website](#).



Additional Professional Development Opportunities

This winter and spring, TAs were invited to weekly virtual check-ins and ongoing professional development workshops and trainings hosted by the Graduate College, Dr. Klein and campus partners to continue engagement. Both new and continuing TAs were invited to participate, as well as graduate student Remote Course Facilitators (RCFs). During these informal sessions, graduate student instructors learned to utilize remote teaching and learning tools as a result of the transition to fully remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Building Bridges Between Academia and Industry" 2019

The Graduate College, in collaboration with the [American Society of Cell Biology \(ASCB\)](#), Drexel's Colleges and Schools, graduate student organizations, and local area universities, institutes and industry partners, hosted its first ASCB Early Career Meeting "[Building Bridges Between Academia and Industry](#)" at Drexel University on November 20, 2019.

The event planning committee fundraised nearly \$13,000 for the event which helped subsidize the cost of attendance for graduate students and postdocs. The event provided an opportunity to network with industry professionals and explore a wide range of career pathways.

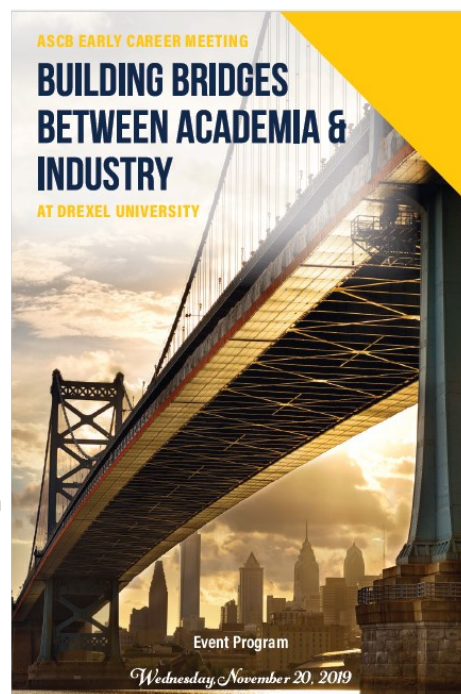
Over 100 graduate students and postdocs, drawn from several neighboring Philadelphia universities and institutes, registered to attend the meeting which sold out! More than 40 speakers and roundtable participants were present to network and engage in conversations with graduate students and postdocs regarding a wide variety of career pathways and professional skills needed in these industries.

Keynote Speaker: [Zahed Subhan, PhD](#), Teaching Professor, Charles D. Close School of Entrepreneurship at Drexel University, Co-Founder & Director, Aestas Pharma Inc and Eppin Pharma Inc
"Making the Leap: When, How, and Why a Career in the Biopharma Industry May Be Right For You"

Attendee Testimonial: *"I'm currently a 3rd year PhD student in Neuroscience at Drexel and attended last night's conference on bridging academia and industry. The event last night was so informative, eye opening, and orga-*

nized so well that I wanted to thank you and your team for realizing this event. Personally, these types of events should be held yearly for us grad students and especially introduced during orientation to the graduate program. If there is anyway I can volunteer with your team for future events, if I'm of use, please let me know. Thanks again!"

For more information about the event, including a list of sponsors, speakers and roundtable participants, visit the [Eventbrite website!](#)



[View Event Photos on Flickr](#)



Special thanks to:

Valerie Tutwiler, PhD '17, BS/MS '13

Event Planning Committee Chair

Career Committee Co-Chair, Committee for Postdocs and Students (COMPASS), American Society of Cell Biology

Elected Director, Drexel Alumni Board of Governors, Biomedical Engineering, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems

Postdoctoral Fellow, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

THE TRANSITION TO REMOTE TEACHING AND LEARNING

Moving Face-to-Face Courses to Remote Format In A Hurry

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Graduate College was asked to assist faculty in the transition to remote learning by providing graduate student [Remote Course Facilitators \(RCFs\)](#) as a resource. In return, the RCF Program offers graduate students an opportunity for continued networking and engagement, professional development, and to earn a monetary award during these challenging times.



Remote Course Facilitator (RCF) Fast Facts

- Approximately **1,626 graduate and undergraduate face-to-face courses** taught by **1,116 faculty members** moved to an entirely remote/online format in the spring term
- More than **200 graduate students** signed up to serve as **Remote Course Facilitators (RCFs)** across all of Drexel's Colleges and Schools this spring, and more than 230 this summer
- The RCF Program has helped support **44 faculty members** in **79 courses** (graduate and undergraduate) with **80 graduate student RCFs** over the course of the spring and summer terms

The goal of the RCF program is to help ***support the remote learning environment in which active engagement is critical for a successful student experience***. While RCFs manage operational and technical aspects of live synchronous course sessions and engage with students through chat, faculty can focus on delivering course content. Matched RCFs are awarded \$450 each by the Office of the Provost for their service. This resource will continue in 2020-2021.

Supporting Graduate Teaching Assistants (TAs) & Remote Course Facilitators (RCFs)

In addition to supporting faculty, the Graduate College offers [virtual check ins](#) specifically for graduate student teaching assistants (TAs) and newly appointed graduate student RCFs for continued training and professional development. The goal of these sessions, featuring remote teaching and learning experts from across the University, is to build community and promote the exchange of ideas about effective remote teaching tools and techniques. These insights have helped the Remote Teaching Task Force develop additional trainings and resource guides for faculty and TAs/RCFs alike.



DREXEL UNIVERSITY
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SUPPORTING GRADUATE STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS

24/7 Confidential Support for Graduate Students

In partnership with Human Resources, the Graduate College announced the ComPsych® GuidanceResources® program for graduate students, including part-time and online students, in January 2020. The GuidanceResources® program offers 24/7 confidential support, resources and information on a variety of work-life topics, including:

- Confidential Emotional Support
- Personal Health, Wellness & Relationship Support
- Personal & Professional Development Resources
- Travel & Cultural Assimilation Guidance
- Legal Guidance
- Financial Resources

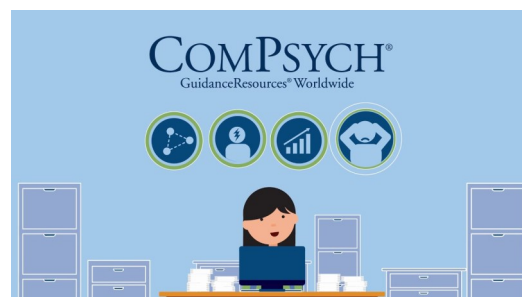
Students can speak to a GuidanceConsultantSM or consult articles, podcasts, videos, on-demand trainings, and other helpful tools. In-person help for short-term issues is also available for up to five sessions with a counselor per person, per issue, per year.

The Graduate College also launched a [new webpage](#) which provides an overview of all health and wellness resources for graduate and online students.

Support for International Graduate Students

The Graduate College with the International Graduate Student Association (IGSA) organized a series of International Graduate Student Meet & Greet to help education international students and address common questions and concerns.

The first session, “Coffee with Cops,” focused on campus safety and security, as well as phone and email scams for which international students often fall victim. The second session provided early guidance on “Preparing for Coronavirus in the U.S.” with ISSS and the Office of Counseling and Health to address myths and misperceptions.



International Graduate Student Meet & Greet:

Coffee with Cops

with Drexel University Police Department

Friday, February 21st, 2020
10-11AM

Graduate College, Main Building
Suite 301 on the 3rd Floor
3141 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Postdocs also welcomed
Coffee and donuts provided!

Members of the Drexel University Police Department will join us to chat informally about campus safety and security and how they can support you.



GRADUATE COLLEGE DOCTORAL FELLOWS 2019-2020

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. (*Over four years for LeBow)

In 2019, the Graduate College received 45 exceptional nominations and selected [12 Blue-Level Fellows](#):

Student	College/School	Faculty Member
Bryce Koester	College of Arts and Sciences	Jocelyn Sessa
Christina Chwyl	College of Arts and Sciences	Evan Forman
Michael Berry	College of Arts and Sciences	Evan Forman
Nicole Tracy	College of Arts and Sciences	Meghan Butryn
Angela Mastrianni	College of Computing and Informatics	Aleksandra Sarcevic
Susan Schickling	College of Engineering	Caroline Schauer
Laura Ann Baehr	College of Nursing and Health Professions	Margaret Finley
Rachel Vecchione	Dornsife School of Public Health	Kristen Lyall
Yin Zhang	LeBow College of Business	Marco Airaud
Yurina Lee	LeBow College of Business	Daniel Tzabbar
Katie Mathew	School of Education	Jennifer Katz-Buonincontro,
Yiyun (Kate) Fan	School of Education	Kristen Betts



<< 2019-2020 Graduate College Doctoral Fellows on the steps of Main Building joined by graduate faculty and leadership

The 2020-2021 Graduate College Doctoral 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 quarter.

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.

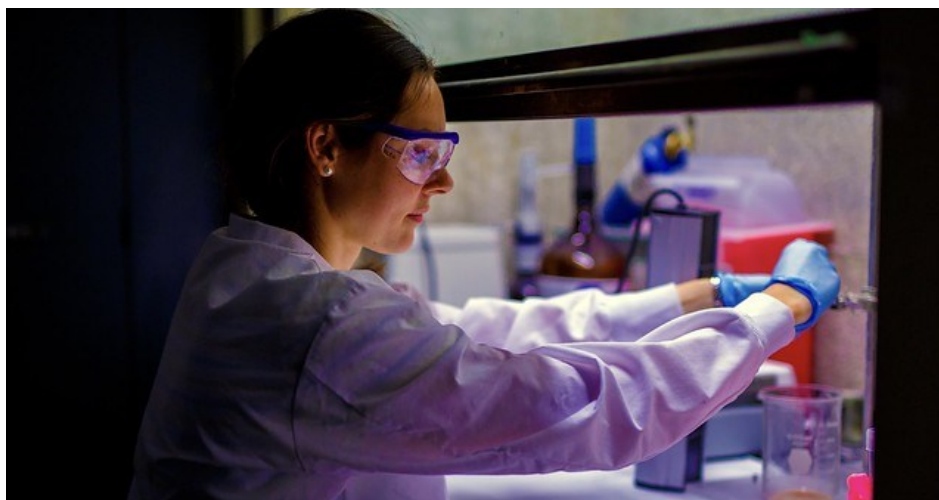
COURSE REGISTRATION

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.*

**Please note that this may not include all graduate students who have been published this year. We are working with campus partners to improve our data collection and encourage academic units to send this information to the Graduate College on a regular basis.*

In 2019-2020, the Graduate College identified more than **250 research publications** or credits in more than **150 different journals**, conference publications, etc. featuring nearly **200 graduate students** in **40 different programs** across **11 Colleges and Schools**.

College/School	Students
College of Arts and Sciences	50
College of Computing and Informatics	22
College of Engineering	76
College of Nursing and Health Professions	22
Dornsife School of Public Health	26
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies	91*
Kline School of Law	1
LeBow College of Business	4
School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems	17
School of Education	12
Westphal College of Media Arts & Design	5
Total	251

**91 publications which include one or more graduate student authors/co-authors*

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](#).

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, mentoring and training opportunities for postdoctoral fellows and graduate student at Drexel, as well as helped secure the Cotswold Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship.

For more information about the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs & Professional Development, visit the [Graduate College website](#).



Updates from 2019-2020

The Drexel Postdoctoral Association (DPA) and Office of Postdoctoral Affairs received a 2019 Elsevier National Postdoc Appreciation Week (NPAW) Award. The award recognized the "Mentors in Motion" event as the *Most Creative Event* as part of the 2019 NPAW celebration September 16-20, a week-long celebration to raise awareness of and acknowledge the significant contributions that postdoctoral scholars ("postdocs") make to U.S. research and discovery. The Mentors in Motion program was designed to empower networking and mentoring between Drexel postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, faculty members and alumni while engaging in a healthy physical activity. NPAW 2019 marked the tenth annual global celebration with more than 500 events registered across the United States, Canada, and Europe. "It is a wonderful way to let postdocs know that they are valued and recognized at their respective institutions," said Dr. Natalie Chernets, Director of Postdoctoral Affairs and Professional Development at Drexel. The DPA and Office of Postdoctoral Affairs would like to thank the mentors and mentees who took part in the Mentors in Motion event.

[See Official Press Release from the NPA](#)

2019 DPA Board Members

Elena Irollo, PhD, Pharmacology, DUCOM
Stephanie Matt, PhD, Pharmacology, DUCOM
Roshell Muir, PhD, Medicine – HIV, DUCOM
Ipsita Mohanty, Pharmacology, DUCOM
Eileen Collyer, PhD, Neuroscience, DUCOM
Abigail Gilman, PhD Nutrition, CNHP
Joseph Gardella, PhD, Phycology, COAS
Paakhi Srivastava, PhD, WELL Center, Phycology, COAS
Arun Kumar Soma, PhD, Physics, COA

Members of the Drexel Postdoctoral Association and Office of Postdoctoral Affairs take a break from their walk around Philadelphia during the "Mentors in Motion" event to snap a photo at the Swann Memorial Fountain at Logan Circle in Center City during National Postdoc Appreciation Week 2019.

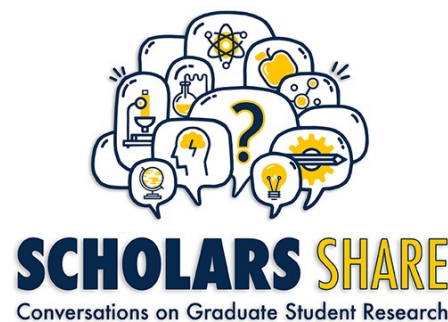


The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs would like to congratulate new Cotswold Foundation Postdoctoral Fellows:

- **Dr. Ipsita Mohanty** (mentor Dr. Patrick Osei-Owusu), Pharmacology and Physiology, DUCOM, Project: "Role of AT1R-integrin signaling in hypertension and chronic kidney disease development in elastin insufficiency"
- **Dr. Paakhi Srivastava** (mentor Dr. Adrienne Juarascio), Center for Weight, Eating and Lifestyle Science or WELL Center, COAS, Project: The BODY+ Study: Using Just-in-time, Adaptive Interventions (JITAI) to Address Body Dissatisfaction in Bulimia Nervosa
- **Dr. Xuehang Wang** (mentor Dr. Yury Gogotsi), Materials Science and Engineering, COE, Project: Electrochemical energy storage in 2D materials
- **Dr. Victor Rovira Zambrana** (mentor Dr. Megan Detloff), Neurobiology and Anatomy, DUCOM, Project: "Involvement of Dorsal Root Ganglia nociceptors phenotypic switch in the development of neuropathic pain after spinal cord injury"

SCHOLARS SHARE PROGRAM 2019-2020

Founded as “Books & Bagels: Conversations on Interdisciplinary Research” in 2012, [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 120 students have joined the Scholars Share presenter’s club over the past seven years! Here are this year’s participants:



October 2019

Elaine Perignat, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Chemistry
College of Arts and Sciences

Tamara Galoyan, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
School of Education

Moderator: Kristen Betts EdD

Clinical Professor
School of Education

November 2019

Meghan Barrett, PhD*

PhD Candidate in Biology
College of Arts and Sciences

Kelley Commeford

PhD Candidate in Physics
College of Arts and Sciences

Hamideh Talafian

PhD Candidate in Educational Leadership and Learning Technologies
School of Education

Moderator: Jennifer Stanford, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Biology
College of Arts and Sciences
Co-Director of the Center for the Advancement of STEM Teaching and Learning Excellence (CASTLE)



****Winner of the 2019-2020 GSA Scholars
Share Award for Outstanding Presentation***

SCHOLARS SHARE PROGRAM 2019-2020

December 2019

Kelsey Clark

PhD Candidate in Clinical Psychology
College of Arts and Sciences

Alisha Desai

PhD Candidate in Clinical Psychology
College of Arts and Sciences

Moderator: Tsz Kwok, EdD

Associate Director, Graduate College
Adjunct Instructor, Westphal College of Media Arts
and Design



January 2020

Elijah Davis

PhD Program in Microbiology and Immunology
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
and Professional Studies
College of Medicine

Rasheda Likely

PhD Candidate in Educational Leadership
and Learning Technologies, with a concentration in STEM Education
School of Education

Jasmine Peake

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

Moderator: Michael Ryan, PhD

Director of Academic Support, Graduate Pipeline Programs
Graduate College
Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies
Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering
Associate Teaching Professor
College of Engineering



SCHOLARS SHARE PROGRAM 2019-2020

February 2020

Bridget Milorey

PhD Candidate in Chemistry
College of Arts and Sciences

Steve Sclafani

PhD Candidate in Physics
College of Arts and Sciences

Joseph Tumulty

PhD Candidate in Physics
College of Arts and Sciences

Moderator: Brigita Urbanc, PhD

Acting Associate Department Head for Graduate Studies
Professor
Department of Physics
College of Arts and Sciences



GRADUATE COLLEGE ZOOM OFFICE HOURS 2020

When the Graduate College closed its office door as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, the staff began offering regular “Zoom Office Hour” sessions for graduate students as a way to keep in touch and offer a virtual space for students to drop in for questions, concerns or simply to talk about how things were going. The sessions feature Graduate College staff members and a variety of guest speakers and topics of interest to the graduate community.

Spring 2020 Offerings

In the spring, we piloted a few general drop-in sessions and a series of “Remote Oral Defense or Presentation Guidelines” sessions to help students scheduled to defend their thesis/dissertation in the spring or who needed to adjust other types of presentations for virtual format. The Graduate College, with the help of Dr. Natalie Chernets, compiled a set of guidelines for remote oral defenses utilizing Zoom web conferencing. The Graduate College distributed this guide, which can be edited and distributed by the Colleges/Schools/ departments/programs to all PhD and doctoral students scheduled to defend.

Summer 2020 Offerings

Remote Oral Defense/Presentations, Job Search During COVID-19, Tips for Effectively Working & Learning Remotely, Time Management & Work/Life Balance, How Steinbright Can Help You Figure Out What's Next - Job Searching, Career Exploration & More



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FINANCIAL LITERACY SERIES 2019-2020

The Graduate College, Graduate Student Association and Drexel Biomedical Graduate Association (DBGA) hosted the [2019-2020 Financial Literacy Series](#) for graduate students and postdocs.

The series offers information and advice on personal financial management from a variety of industry experts.

FINANCIAL LITERACY SERIES

For Graduate Students & Postdocs

ABC: Accounts, Budgeting and Credit—10/23/2020

With Beth Manley, SHRM-CP, PHR, CEPF, Adult Financial Education Manager, Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union



Home Buying and Lending—11/19/2020

With Michael Clancy, MBA, CFP, CLU, Director of Financial Planning, Division of Medical Education, College of Medicine



**FRANKLIN MINT
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**
The Credit Union of Choice!®

The Tax Talk—1/15/2020

With Michael Clancy, MBA, CFP, CLU, Director of Financial Planning, Division of Medical Education, College of Medicine And special guest, Melissa G. Richman, MS, Director of Administration and Finance, Graduate College

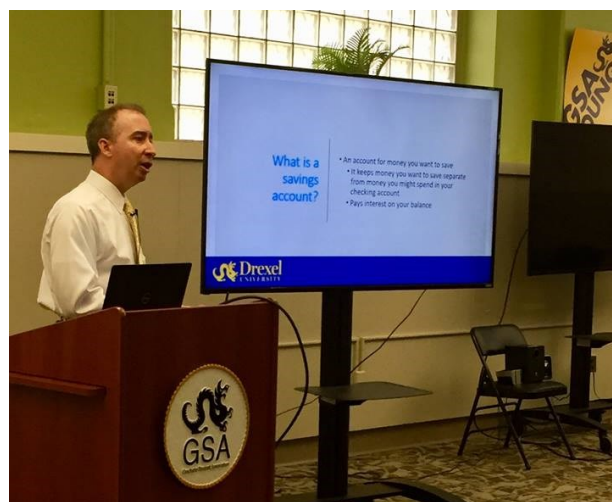
Educational Planning and Funding—2/12/2020

Featuring:

Nina Mielcarz, Assistant Director, Trainer, Drexel Central Jay Bhatt, Drexel University Library Liaison

Natalie Chernets, Director of Postdoctoral Affairs and Professional Development

Leah Gates, Director of the Center for Scholar Development



Beginner Investing: Employee Benefits, Retirement Planning, etc.—5/20/2020

With Michael Clancy, MBA, CFP, CLU, Director of Financial Planning, Division of Medical Education, College of Medicine

Advanced Investing: Diversifying Your Portfolio, Trading, etc.—6/3/2020

With George Tsetsekos, PhD, Dean Emeritus and the George B. Francis Professor of Finance, LeBow College of Business

To access recording of these workshops, download presentations or review one-page guides on the topics, visit the [Graduate College website!](#)



VIRTUAL DREXEL EMERGING GRADUATE SCHOLARS CONFERENCE 2020

The [Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars \(DEGS\) Conference](#), a free, student-run, University-wide conference and proud Drexel tradition, provides opportunities for graduate students to showcase their research at any level to those outside of their academic discipline, engage with peers, postdocs, alumni, faculty and professional staff from across the University and compete for monetary awards. The conference is sponsored by the Graduate Student Association, Graduate College and Office of Research and Innovation with support from Student Life, Alumni Relations and Drexel University Online.

This year's conference, which took place April 22-23, moved to an entirely virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic allowing our graduate students to pioneer a new approach. **More than 70 graduate students presented their work** virtually in both synchronous and asynchronous formats over the two-day period (**30+ oral presentations** via Zoom and nearly **40 virtual poster presentations** via Padlet). More than 50 **Drexel faculty, professional staff, alumni and postdoctoral fellows volunteered their time to serve as judges** despite the challenges of moving to remote teaching, learning and research to support our graduate student presenters. **More than 350 people registered and nearly 300 participated** in the two-day virtual event. Survey data suggested that attendees enjoyed many aspects of the virtual conference which we will plan to incorporate in the future. *View screenshots of the live event via [Flickr](#)!*



This year's keynote speaker, Professor Genevieve Dion, professor of design in the Westphal College of Media Arts and Design, affiliate faculty member in the department of Materials Science and Engineering in the College of Engineering, Founder of the Shima Seiki Haute Tech Lab and Director of the Center for Functional Fabrics, worked directly on a COVID-19 emergency response producing new types of washable/reusable masks and respirators. Her talk was entitled, *The Adaptive Transdisciplinary Design System in Action: Make Masks @ Drexel*. You can view a recording of the keynote on the [Graduate College website](#). We hope you will join us next year!

Special thanks to the 2020 conference planning committee:

- **Chair:** Guillermo D. Ibarrola Recalde, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Graduate Student Association, PhD Program in STEM Education, School of Education
- Luis Rebollar Tercero, Vice President of Finance, Graduate Student Association, PhD Program in Chemical Engineering, College of Engineering
- The 2019-2020 Executive Board Members of the Graduate Student Association
- Sandra Strang, Communications and Events Manager, Graduate College
- David Kim, Administrative Coordinator, Graduate College
- Kimberly David-Chung, Assistant Vice President, Virtual Student Experience, Drexel University Online, Student Life and Graduate College
- Reina Lopez, Manager, Events and Conference Services, Drexel University Online
- Melissa Richman, Executive Director of Online and Graduate Financial Services and Planning, Graduate College
- Ariel Basch, Assistant Director of Student Involvement and Leadership, Student Life, Campus Engagement, Enrollment Management and Student Success
- Jennifer Tifone, Assistant Director, Finance and Administration, Enrollment Management & Student Success
- With support from the staff of the Graduate College, Office of Research and Innovation, Student Life and Drexel University Online

VIRUTAL DREXEL EMERGING GRADUATE SCHOLARS CONFERENCE 2020

President's Award for Best Three Minute Thesis (3MT®)

Presented by President John A. Fry ([View Video Presentations](#))

Dienye Tolofari

PhD Program, Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering
Full Factorial Study of Plumbing Pipe Material, Diameter, and Water Use Frequency on Water Quality



Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) People's Choice Award

Presented by Aleister Saunders, PhD, Executive Vice Provost for Research and Innovation

Asia Sarycheva

PhD Program, Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering
Raman Spectroscopy Reveals the Effect of Synthesis Conditions on Ti3C2Tx

Provost's Award for Best Oral Research Presentation

Presented by Paul Jensen, PhD, Nina Henderson Provost and University Professor

Ariana Levitt

PhD Program, Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering
Knitted Energy Storage Devices Using MXene to Power Electronic Textiles

Second Place Oral Research Presentation

Presented by Aleister Saunders, PhD, Executive Vice Provost for Research and Innovation

Laura Baehr

PhD Program, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Professions
Association of Quantitative Pain Measures and Physical Activity: Scoping Review in Progress

Dean's Award for Best Research Poster Presentation

Presented by Elisabeth J. Van Bockstaele, PhD, Senior Vice President for Graduate and Online Education, Dean of the Graduate College

Angela Mastrianni

PhD Program, Information Science, College of Computing and Informatics
Understanding the Effects of Teamwork on Digital Checklist Use

Second Place for Research Poster Presentation

Presented by Maria Schultheis, PhD, Vice Provost for Research and Innovation

Christian Cabuslay

PhD Program, Biology, College of Arts and Sciences
Coevolution of Cephalotes ants and their gut bacteria

Hayley O'Donnell

PhD Program, Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences
Learning Preferences as an Index of Individual Differences in Cognitive Flexibility

***Congratulations to the 2020 DEGS
Conference award winners!***

GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

OVERVIEW

The [Graduate Student Association \(GSA\)](#) is the governing body for all graduate [student organizations](#) officially recognized by [Student Life](#) and serves graduate students in quarter programs 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, alumni, 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.



2019-2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

President

Karly Soldner

PhD Program in Environmental Engineering
College of Engineering

Vice President of Student Life

Saurajyoti Kar

PhD Program in Environmental Engineering
College of Engineering

Vice President of Academic Affairs

Guillermo D. Ibarrola Recalde
PhD Program in Education
School of Education

Vice President of Finance

Luis Rebollar
PhD Program in Chemical Engineering
College of Engineering

Vice President of Operations

Caleb Andrews (*July—December*)

PhD Program in Materials Science and Engineering
College of Engineering

Amy Honnig (*January—June*)

PhD Program in Chemical Engineering
College of Engineering

Vice President of Communications

Martin Walsh
PhD Program in Chemical Engineering
College of Engineering

Social Chair

Nivedya Ashokan
MBA Program
LeBow College of Business

Office: Main Building, Room 010, Lower Level

Email: dsogsa@drexel.edu

GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

2019-2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

President

Zhouquan Fu

PhD Program in Mechanical Engineering

College of Engineering

Vice President

Md Rasheduzzaman

PhD Program in Environmental Engineering

College of Engineering

Treasurer

Dicle Ozel

MS Program in Psychology

College of Arts and Sciences

**Event Coordinator, Director of Operations—
Academic, Civic and Professional Development Events**

Jingyi Li

MBA Program

LeBow College of Business

**Event Coordinator, Director of Operations—
Social and Cultural Events**

Madhura Pande

MBA Program

LeBow College of Business

Email: dsoigsa@drexel.edu



Members of the IGSA, ISSS, Health Insurance & Immunizations Office 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

2019-2020 RECOGNIZED GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Biology Graduate Student Association (BGSA)
- Chemical and Biological Engineering Graduate Student Association (CBEGSA)
- Chemistry Graduate Student Association (CGSA)
- College of Computing and Informatics Doctoral Student Association (CCIDSA)
- Communication, Culture and Media Association of Doctoral Students (CCMADS)
- Drexel Biomedical Graduate Association (DBGA)
- Drexel Black Graduate Student Union (DBGSU)
- Drexel Career Cornerstone Group
- Drexel Chinese Graduate Christian Fellowship
- Drexel Graduate Women in Science and Engineering (DGWISE)
- Drexel Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Graduate Forum (DIG)
- Drexel Preconception Peer Educators
- Drexel University Library and Archives Student Association (DULASA)
- Graduate Resource Association of Nutrition and Dietetics (GRAND)
- Health Management and Policy Club (HMP Club)
- International Graduate Students Association (IGSA)
- Materials Research Society (MRS)
- Maternal and Child Health Student Organization at Drexel University
- Minorities and Women in Physics Society
- Persian Students Association
- Physics Graduate Student Association (PGSA)
- PRAGATHI - The Indian Graduate Student Association
- Public Health Doctoral Students Advisory Group
- School of Education Graduate Students Organization
- Science, Technology & Society Collective
- Student Government Organization of the School of Public Health (SGOSPH)
- Wilbur W. Oaks Physician Assistant Student Society

A complete list of student organizations, including officer and contact information, websites, etc. can be found in [DragonLink](#). For more information about Drexel's student organizations, visit the [Student Life website](#) or [contact Student Life](#). Information on student organization leadership development can be found on [BOLD's DragonLink page](#).



TECK-KAH LIM TRAVEL SUBSIDY AWARD 2019-2020

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. Dr. Lim provides a generous gift annually for this award which was matched by the 2019-2020 Executive Board of the GSA. The GSA also increased the award amounts per category effective fall 2019.

In 2019-2020, more than **75 students** received travel awards ranging from \$200—\$600 per student and exceeding **\$35,500** total. Awardees traveled to cities across the country including Atlanta, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Honolulu, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Madison, Miami, New Orleans, Orlando, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle and St. Louis. In addition, many went on to win conference awards and network with field and industry leaders and potential employers.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the award application closed in March for the remainder of the fiscal year. A few students were able to use their funds to present at virtual conferences and meetings. This is also being considered for 2020-2021.

2019-2020 RECIPIENT HIGHLIGHT

Rebecca Crochiere

PhD Program in Psychology
College of Arts and Sciences

The Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) Annual Meeting
November 21-24, 2019
Atlanta, Georgia
Approx. 3, 500 attendees



Rebecca was awarded the 2019 Graduate Student Research Award for the highest-rated abstract submission to the Obesity and Eating Disorder Special Interest Group (OED SIG)!

"Attending ABCT was a critical milestone in my academic career. It exposed me to countless new ways of thinking, sparked numerous potential research ideas, and facilitated my meeting leading experts in the field who I now have plans to collaborate on future conference symposia with.

I greatly appreciate Dr. Teck-Kah Lim's integral role in enabling Drexel students to take advantage of the academic and professional benefits national conferences have to offer."

GRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2019-2020

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. Unfortunately, this year's awards ceremony and reception was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Award recipients received a digital award certificate. Here are this year's awardees:

OUTSTANDING MENTORSHIP AWARDS

Abdullah Bilal Altundas

PhD Program in Chemistry
College of Arts and Sciences

Jennifer Villareale

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

DREXEL COMMON GOOD AWARDS

Samantha Joseph

PhD Program in Community Health and Prevention
Dornsife School of Public Health

Olivia Ngo

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

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Zhengqiao Zhao—Post-Candidacy

PhD Program in Electrical Engineering
College of Engineering

Ashley Opalka—Pre-Candidacy

PhD Program in Neuroscience
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies
College of Medicine

Neha Khanna—Master's

Master's Program in Business Analytics
LeBow College of Business

Thelmelis Abreu—Most Original & Creative

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

OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARDS

Adrian Curtin

PhD Program in Biomedical Engineering
School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems
Drexel University & Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Ishan Ghosh

PhD Program in Economics
LeBow College of Business

TECK-KAH LIM AWARD

Asia Sarycheva

PhD Program in Materials Science and Engineering
College of Engineering



GRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2019-2020

TEACHING ASSISTANT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Lutfi Agartan

PhD Program in Mechanical Engineering and
Mechanics
College of Engineering
For Classroom Instruction

Evan Arena

PhD Program in Physics
College of Arts and Sciences
For Classroom Instruction

May Cheung

PhD Program in Nutrition Sciences
College of Nursing and Health Professions
For Classroom Instruction

Steve Earth

PhD Program in Computer Science
College of Computing and Informatics
For Classroom Instruction

Tiffany England

Master's Program in Interior Architecture and
Design
Westphal College of Media Arts and Design
For Academic Support

Alyssa Leggieri

Master's Program in Nursing, Nursing Educa-
tion and Faculty Role
College of Nursing and Health Professions
For Online Instruction

Dominick Macaluso

PhD Program in Mathematics
College of Arts and Sciences
For Classroom Instruction

Nancy Mack

PhD Program in Neuroscience
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and
Professional Studies
College of Medicine
For Classroom Instruction

Yulia Malkova

PhD Program in Electrical Engineering
College of Engineering
For Classroom Instruction

Hongjun Ye

PhD Program in Business, Marketing
LeBow College of Business
For Classroom Instruction

CONTINUING EXCELLENCE

Katherine Fiocca

PhD Program in Biology
College of Arts and Sciences



GRADUATE COLLEGE RECOGNITION AWARDS 2019-2020

In recognition of volunteer contributions to the Doctoral (D) Forms Working Group and support of doctoral and PhD students and streamlining processes and procedures:

Elizabeth Goralczyk

Software Development Engineering
Drexel University Information Technology

Christopher Laincz

Director, PhD Program and Professor of Economics
LeBow College of Business

In recognition of outstanding service and advocacy for graduate student instructors, Remote Course Facilitators (RCFs), Teaching Assistants (TAs), and for continued support for graduate students in remote and online teaching and learning environments:

Alan Hecht

Director of Instructional Technical Services
LeBow College of Business

Johanna Inman

Director, Teaching and Learning Center
Office of Faculty Affairs

Valerie Klein

Chair, Teaching Assistant Excellence Awards Committee
Assistant Clinical Professor & Program Director for Teacher Education Programs
School of Education

Michael Shelmet

Director of Instructional Technology
Drexel University Information Technology
In recognition of outstanding service to the graduate community:

Anne Converse Willkomm

Chair, Graduate Student Excellence Awards Committee

Assistant Clinical Professor and Department Head of Graduate Studies

Goodwin College of Professional Studies

In recognition of volunteer service and continued engagement with the Drexel graduate, postdoc and alumni communities:

Valerie Tutwiler

Drexel Alumni, BS/MS '13, PhD '17 Biomedical Engineering, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems

Co- Founder, Drexel Emerging Graduate Scholars Conference

Elected Director, Drexel University Board of Governors

Postdoctoral Fellow, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

For outstanding leadership, service, advocacy and commitment to the graduate community at Drexel this year:

The Executive Board of the Graduate Student Association 2019-2020

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION AWARDS 2019-2020

The 2019-2020 Executive Board of the GSA congratulates the following 2020 GSA Award recipients:

Scholars Share Award

Meghan Barrett, PhD Candidate in Biology, College of Arts and Sciences

Most Collaborative Organization

Drexel Peer Health Educators and Maternal Child Health Student Organization

Most Academically Driven Organization

ChemGSA

Graduate Community Impact Award

SoE GNOMES

Outstanding Professional Staff Mentor Award

Brenna Martin, PhD Programs Manager, Academic Advisor, College of Computing and Informatics

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award

Ana Martinez-Dontae, Associate Professor, Community Health and Prevention, Dornsife School of Public Health



The GSA would also like to honor the following nominees for outstanding graduate student mentorship:

Chalice Rhodes, Assistant Clinical Professor, College of Nursing and Health Profession, recognized for teaching methods

Christopher Laincz, Associate Professor, LeBow College of Business, recognized for supporting doctoral/PhD students

Lauren D'Innocenzo, Assistant Professor, LeBow College of Business, recognized for service to the LeBow College of Business DBA Program

Gladys Clapano-Mozdzonek, College of Nursing and Health Professions, recognized for service to the College of Nursing and Health Professions

Heejun Kim, Postdoctoral Fellow, College of Computing and Informatics, recognized for service to MSDS

Jake Williams, Assistant Professor, College of Computing and Informatics, recognized for mentorship to graduate and undergraduate students

John Gould, Clinical Professor, School of Education, recognized for teaching methods

Kimberly Garcia, Assistant Clinical Professor, College of Nursing and Health Profession, recognized for service to mental health post-grad NP program

Michael Ryan, Associate Teaching Professor, College of Engineering, recognized for service to the International Graduate Student Association (IGSA)

Patti Zuzelo, Clinical Professor, College of Nursing and Health Professions, recognized for service to advising in the DNP program

Raquel Arredondo, Associate Director, LeBow College of Business, recognized for service as graduate advisor

Thomas Heverin, Associate Teaching Professor, College of Computing and Informatics, recognized for service to Women in Computing Society

Toni Sondergeld, Associate Professor, School of Education, recognized for service to SoE GNOMES

Yvonne Michael, Associate Professor, Dornsife School of Public Health, recognized for service to Public Health Doctoral Students Advisory Group

The GSA sincerely thanks you for your dedication to graduate student success at Drexel!

VIRTUAL DOCTORAL STUDENT CELEBRATION & COMMENCEMENT 2020

To honor the achievements of doctoral degree recipients (DBA, DCFT, DHSc, DPT, DNP, DrPH, EdD, PhD), the Graduate College welcomes recipients from the current academic year, deans, academic leadership, faculty and professional staff to attend a reception in June prior to the annual Commencement ceremonies.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's celebration took place virtually via Zoom on June 9. Watch the recording on the [Graduate College website via YouTube](#).

2020 DISTINGUISHED STUDENT SPEAKERS

RASHEDA LIKELY

*Graduating PhD Candidate in Educational Leadership and Learning Technologies, with a concentration in STEM Education
School of Education*



GUILLERMO IBARROLA RECALDE

*Vice President for Academic Affairs of the 2019-2020 Executive Board of the Graduate Student Association
Graduating PhD Student in STEM Education
School of Education*



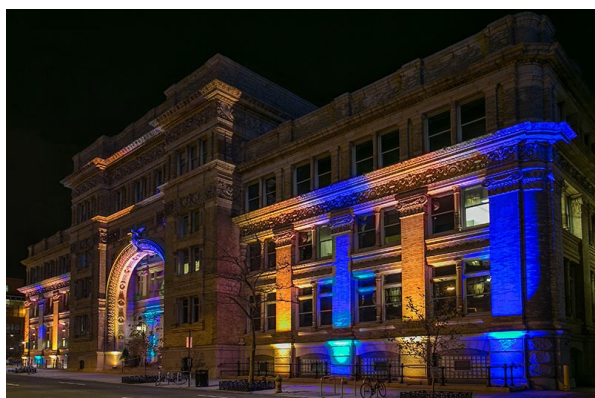
THE CLASS OF 2020 BY THE NUMBERS

Includes fall, winter and spring quarter graduates:

- ⇒ **1,713** Total Degree Recipients
- ⇒ **187** PhD and Doctoral Degree Recipients
- ⇒ **1,526** Master's Degree Recipients
- ⇒ **145** Certificates Awarded

In addition to the virtual celebration, Drexel honored the Class of 2020 by lighting up the City of Philadelphia blue and gold on June 11. Visit the [Commencement website](#) for a recap! Class of 2020 graduates will be invited to attend Commencement 2021, including the individual College and School ceremonies.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020! #ForeverDragons



LOOKING AHEAD

As we reflect on the 2019-2020 Academic Year, it is difficult not to focus on the incredible challenges we have faced and continue to face as a society. We are reminded of A.J. Drexel's words—*"The world is going to change, and therefore, the University must change with it."* These challenges have also provided us with unique opportunities to rethink the way we teach, learn, work, conduct research, communicate, and connect with one another. While most of us are looking forward to things "going back to normal," we must also acknowledge the growth we have experienced as individuals, as a University, and as a society. We are lifelong learners, ever-navigating our own "new normal."

We'd like to acknowledge our graduate student leaders, deans, associate deans, faculty and professional staff advisors, and University partners who help us support nearly 8,000 graduate students, both on campus and online. We are proud to work with a small, but highly motivated team of individuals in the Graduate College. Although our office doors remain closed as we continue to work remotely and practice social distancing, please know that we are here for you and that our *virtual* door is always open.

As we look ahead to a new academic year, we look forward to engaging in the meaningful work to come. We will continue to support and develop programs and initiatives that enhance the graduate student and scholar experience, preparing them for the new world of work. We will design policies and procedures that put students first and advocate for the needs of graduate students and postdocs University-wide. We will practice and promote health and safety, cultural diversity, scholarly integrity, and inclusivity.

Best wishes for the 2020-2021 Academic Year! We hope to "see" you at a Graduate College Zoom Office Hour or virtual event soon. And of course, we look forward to re-opening our office doors and connecting with you all on campus when it is safe again.

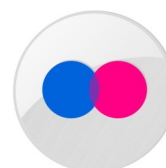
For the latest updates on Drexel's response to COVID-19 and return to campus plans, visit drexel.edu/coronavirus

-The Graduate College Team





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Graduate
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