Orientation 2015

Welcome to Brown!

Peter M. Weber
Dean of the Graduate School
Please Silence Your Phone

Follow the stream on Twitter
@BrownGradSchool
#brownwelcome
Welcome, Doctoral Students!

Christina H. Paxson
President of Brown University
Dean’s Briefing for Doctoral Students
Brown’s 252nd Opening Convocation
Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Students should report at 3:30 pm to College Street
(just outside the gates)
Getting to Know Us…

- John Tyler, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
- Vanessa Ryan, Associate Dean, Student Development

Want to meet? See website for open office hours or email.
Getting to Know Us...

- Beth Harrington, Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, BioMed

- Brian Walton, Associate Dean, Administration

Want to meet? See website for open office hours or email.
Getting to Know Us…

- Beverly Larson, Director of Communications
- Bev Ehrich, Graduate Student Program Coordinator at CareerLAB
- Beth Murphy, Assistant Director of Financial Aid
The Graduate School at Horace Mann

47 George St.
Your Cohort

- 778 incoming doctoral and master’s students
- Selected from 9,682 applicants

CONGRATULATIONS!
Doctoral Population

- 51 programs
- 1,462 PhD students overall
- 293 new PhD Students; by area:
  - Humanities, 53
  - Life Sciences, 82
  - Physical Sciences, 99
  - Social Sciences, 59
International Profile: PhD cohort

- 50 countries (with U.S.)
- 119 international students
- 174 domestic students
Doctoral Students

You are central to the mission and reputation of the University
Brown’s Mission is to …

… serve the community, the nation, and the world by discovering, communicating, and preserving knowledge and understanding in a spirit of free inquiry, and by educating and preparing students to discharge the offices of life with usefulness and reputation…
...We do this through a partnership of students and teachers in a unified community known as a university-college.
Living in a Community
Know the Rules

- Academic and Student Conduct Codes
- Graduate School Handbook
- Faculty Rules
Academic and Student Conduct Codes

Regulations for performing your academic requirements responsibly

- To avoid the risk of plagiarism:
  - Cite your sources
  - Collaborate — but ask how
  - Pay attention to copyright regulations

- Research regulations on:
  - Studying people, animals or things
  - Environmental health and safety, hazardous materials
  - Dishonesty or misconduct
  - Patent and invention
Academic and Student Conduct Codes

Do not engage in:
- Disruptive behavior
- Actions that result in physical harm
- Sexual misconduct
- Harassment on the basis of difference
- Abuse of drugs or alcohol
- Actions that fail to comply with the directive of a University official

Possession and use of firearms, gunpowder, ammunition, explosives, ..., are not allowed on campus

Note: Ignorance is not an excuse!
Ethics: More Than ‘You Shall Not’

- Researchers have obligations to:
  - Themselves
  - Research subjects (animals or humans)
  - Other researchers
  - The institution where research is taking place
  - The community in which the research is being done
  - Funders of research
  - Society as a whole

- Honesty and integrity will affect your work’s impact
  - Clarity of your research: data quality, record keeping
  - Reporting, crediting, and publishing
Ethics: Training Opportunities

- NSF Responsible Conduct of Research Training Requirement
- Online training at [www.citiprogram.org](http://www.citiprogram.org)*
- Departmental Workshops
- *Academy in Context* dinner-seminars
- Ask questions. Talk with peers and mentors

*Brown University is a member of [Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative](http://www.citiprogram.org), which offers ethics training.*
‘Nuts and Bolts’

The stages, funding and professional development of doctoral students at Brown
Your Program: What’s Ahead

- Three-year residency requirement: on-campus study, normally taking courses
- Advancement to candidacy: completing all program requirements except the dissertation
  - Courses
  - Language proficiency (some departments)
  - One or more written or oral exams (“prelims”)
  - Teaching
- Submission of dissertation
PhD Student Development

- Professional academic training
  - Producer vs. learner of knowledge
  - Self-directed
- Being mentored and mentoring
- Teaching training
- Developing transferable skills
  - Writing and presentation skills
  - Teamwork
  - Applying knowledge
PhD Student Funding

- “Five-Year Guarantee”
  - 5 years - *normally consecutive* – plus 4 summers of support
  - Any source: TA, RA, internal Fellowship or external Fellowship
  - All programs
  - See letter of admission
  - Requirements:
    - Maintain “good academic standing”
    - Have an advisor who mentors you, and supervises and supports your research

- External Fellowships
  - Sign of distinction
  - Graduate School incentive
Beyond Year 5 in Social Science and Humanities

- If Graduate School supported: Up to 1 extra year of stipend support might be possible
- For those who don’t have a research assistantship: Need to apply for funding as a rising sixth year student through the Dissertation Completion Proposal (DCP) process
- After that: tuition support (Dissertation Extension Proposal, DEP)

Plan your studies: keep time to completion in mind!
Stipend Primer

- Paid Monthly
- Your Program Submits the Appointment
- Graduate School Processes Payment via Workday
- What You Should Do:
  - Set up bank account
  - Complete I-9 Form at Human Resources
  - Get [W-4 form on Controller’s website](#); complete and submit it to Payroll Office
  - Set up direct deposit and federal withholding through Workday
  - International students: check in with [OISSS on social security and tax treaty matters](#)
You Can Apply for…

- **Conference Travel Funds**
  - Up to $650 for conference presenters

- **Research Travel Funds**:
  - Graduate Research Travel Grant (during academic year)
  - Joukowsky Summer Research Award (for research travel, language programs and summer workshops, etc.)

- **International Travel Funds**
  - Up to $1,000 for conference presenters or for research studies abroad
  - Register with **SOS**!
Essential Information
Finding Information

Gateway for Graduate Students

For quick access to:

“Who to Ask” list
Policies
Dates and Deadlines
Resources
Forms
Commencement information
Every program is required to have one

Clear outline of milestones (degree requirements)

Deadlines for completion of requirements

Evaluation procedures

- Students receive an annual letter of evaluation from their programs (for each semester for first-years)
Staying in touch:
Feel free to meet with a Dean. See the website for open office hours or make an appointment.

There is help when needed.
Sampling of Resources

- University Library
- University Health Services
- Brown Center for Students of Color
- Sarah Doyle Women’s Center
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Office of Student Life
- Office of the Chaplains and Religious Life
- LGBTQ Resource Center
- John Nicholas Brown Center
- Computing and Information Services
- Athletics and Physical Education
Staying Current

- Graduate School emails
  - Targeted or general
  - Infrequent – read them
- Morning Mail
  - Centralized email system used across Brown
- Twitter
  - Follow @BrownGradSchool
  - #fellowship for grant news and announcements
- Facebook
  - Highlights events and your accomplishments
Office of Student Life

- **Student Support Services**
  - Personal or family emergencies
  - 24/7/365 administrator on-call coverage
    - Business hours: (401) 863-3145
    - Evenings and weekends: (401) 863-3322
    - If unsure and it’s urgent, call DPS at (401) 863-4111
  - Medical and psychological concerns, leaves, referrals

- **Student and Employee Accessibility Services (SEAS)**
  - Assists with physical, psychological, and learning disabilities

- **Student Conduct**
  - Assuring the opportunity to work and live in a safe, respectful community
Student Life: People

Maria Suarez
Associate Dean and Director of Student Support Services

Cynthia Ellis
Associate Dean

Mary Greineder
Assistant Dean

Ashley M. Ferranti
Assistant Dean

Grad Center E
Suite 403
42 Charlesfield Street
Other Resources for Support

- Health Services:
  13 Brown Street

- Counseling and Psychological Services:
  J Walter Wilson

- Office of the Chaplains:
  J Walter Wilson
Ombuds Office

When you need an ear….

- Independent Office
- Neutral and informal resource
- Serves faculty, postdocs, staff, and graduate students

- Explore informal resolution of a conflict
- Get assistance with a difficult conversation
- Think through any issue arising from your life at Brown

Ruthy Kohorn Rosenberg, Ombudsperson
Some are assigned, some are chosen…
the people may change or go on leave,
but the roles continue
Key People in Your Department

- Director of Graduate Study
- Research Advisor/Mentor
- Department Chair
Graduate Student Council
GSC Orientation Session & Events

- Peer-Led Discussion Groups
  - After lunch, at 1:45 pm
  - Meet in MacMillan 117
  - Break into smaller groups
  - Ask your questions about Brown and life in Providence

SOCIAL TONIGHT AT 9 PM:
Hanley's Ale House
52 Pine St.
Graduate Student Council: Your Voice

**Officers**

- President: Joel Simundich
- VP, Advocacy: Ali Mathwig
- VP, Communications: Anni Pullagura
- Treasurer: James Budarz
- VPs, Social: Lauren Watts; Maria Boccardi;
- International Advocate: Benjamin Fancy

**Role of the GSC**

- Represent Grad Students
- Organize Events and Classes
- Support Student Initiatives
- Maintain Grad Student-Only Spaces
- Operate Community Listservs
GSC Delegates

- University Resources Committee (URC; 2 delegates)
- Graduate Council (GC; 4 delegates)
- Brown University Community Council (BUCC; 3 delegates)
Opportunities

Special Programs and University Services
Open Graduate Education

- Combines advanced disciplinary training with the spirit of Brown’s Open Curriculum
  - Pursue a separate master’s degree
  - Gain advantage in job market
  - Potential to catalyze interdisciplinary research
- Further information: See brochure in your packet and attend information session
- Application deadline in February
Brown Executive Scholars Training

- BEST program provides 12 weeks of training
- Insight into higher ed career options
- 8-10 students per year
- Mentoring by Brown administrators
- Application deadline: Nov. 13
Advanced Student Development

- **Brown/Wheaton Faculty Fellowships**
  - Independent teaching of one course at Wheaton College
  - 4 Fellows per year

- **Deans’ Faculty Fellowships**
  - Fall fellowship semester in 6th year
  - Completion by January 15 in 6th year yields
  - Spring appointment as Visiting Assistant Professor
  - Up to 12 6th-year PhD students/year

- **Interdisciplinary Opportunities**
  - Professional development at Center or Institute
  - One additional year of support
Sheridan Center

- Consulting Services
  - Individual Teaching
  - Departmental Micro-teaching
  - Presentation/Conference Paper
  - Grants
  - Courses
  - Preparation for the Academic Job Market

- Programs
  - New Teaching Assistant Orientation
  - Teaching Certificate Programs
  - Teaching Seminar Lectures
  - Graduate Student Seminars
  - Teaching Forums
  - Mentorship Program for Graduate Students
Writing Center

- Staffed by graduate students
- Offers one-on-one conferences
- For experienced and inexperienced writers
- Clarity and style

Help with all stages of writing process:
- Writer’s block
- Audience awareness
- Argumentation
- Organization
- Grammar
- Research skills
- English as a second language
CareerLAB

- Supports professional development of doctoral candidates
  - Academic positions
  - Non-academic options
- Complements faculty advising
- Services include:
  - Confidential counseling
  - Resume and CV critiques
  - Skills assessment
  - Job search programs
  - How to negotiate compensation
- Hosts GradCON networking event
  - Save the date: Nov. 14
Brown Alumni Association

- **Sign up for BRUnet NOW!**
  - Online career networking program for alumni and students
  - More than 5,300 alumni members
  - Arrange informational interviews
  - Find career contacts

- **Plug into affinity groups**

- **Join Brown’s LinkedIn groups**
  - Life/Physical Sciences: grad students & alumni
  - Humanities/Social Sciences: grad students & alumni
Presenting Yourself Online

Visit the PhotoBooth Today!

Get a professional-grade headshot for LinkedIn

Salomon Lobby until 3:30 pm

Images sent directly to your Brown email

Center for Digital Scholarship

Workshops:
- Managing your online identity
- Building your own website

Orientation Schedule

10:15 am – Title IX Panel Discussion here
11:25 pm – Resource Fair in Sayles Hall
12:30 pm – Lunch on Simmons Quad
1:30 pm – Peer-Led Discussions on Graduate Student Life (MacMillan 117)