Orientation 2017: Thriving at Brown

Richard Locke
Brown University Provost
Professor of Political Science & International and Public Affairs
CONVOCATION

Brown’s 255th Opening Convocation
Tuesday, September 4, 2018

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

- Thomas A. Lewis,
  Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
  Professor of Religious Studies

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

- Vanessa Ryan,
  Associate Dean, Student Development

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

- Shayna Kessel, Associate Dean, Master’s Education & Interim Associate Dean for International Graduate Students

- Marlina Duncan, Associate Dean, Diversity Initiatives & Assistant Vice President for Academic Diversity

- Maria Suarez, Associate Dean, Student Support
The Graduate School at Horace Mann

47 George St.
Doctoral Students are Central to Brown

The mission of Brown University 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.
Doctoral Population

- 1,650 PhD students overall
- 280 new PhD Students
- 51 programs

![Circle chart showing the distribution of PhD students by field: Physical Sciences 37%, Life Sciences 26%, Humanities 18%, Social Sciences 19%.]
Graduate Student Council: Your Voice
Role of the GSC:

- Represent Grad Students
- Organize Events and Classes
- Support Student Initiatives
- Maintain Grad Student-Only Spaces
- Listservs

GSC Panel today: Salomon 101 at 2 pm

students.brown.edu/GSC
GSC Delegates

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

- Dynamic departmental representatives are always needed!
  - Vote at GSC meetings
  - Ensure flow of information to program peers and back to GSC
- Interested?
  - Stop by the GSC table at the Resource Fair or email the President at gsc_president@brown.edu
  - Meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of every month
  - 7pm in the Grad Center Lounge (Charlesfield & Thayer)

SOCIAL SATURDAY AT 8 PM: Whiskey Republic, 15 Bridge Street
Thriving in Community
Know the Rules

- Academic and Student Conduct Codes
- Graduate School Handbook
- Faculty Rules
Regulations for meeting your academic requirements responsibly

- To avoid the risk of plagiarism and falsification/augmentation:
  - 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

- Federal Responsible Conduct of Research Training Requirement
- Appropriate online (CITI) training
- Departmental Workshops
- Academy in Context dinner-seminars
- Ask questions. Talk with peers and mentors

*Brown University is a member of Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, which offers ethics training.*
Academic Milestones

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 (24 credits/units)
- Advancement to candidacy: completing all program requirements except the dissertation. These include:
  - Courses
  - Language proficiency (some departments)
  - One or more written or oral exams (“prelims”)
  - Teaching Assistantships
- Submission of dissertation
Program Handbook

- Every graduate 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)
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
Key People in Your Department

- Director of Graduate Study (DGS)
- Research Advisor(s)/Mentor(s)
- Department Chair
- Program Coordinator
Advising and Mentoring Resources for Students

Advising can be defined as offering constructive counsel and guidance to graduate students in order to assist them in meeting their academic and professional goals. An advisor helps to evaluate students’ skills, talents, and performance as well as assists in the selection of coursework and other academic and training programs that will further their academic and professional development. Advisors play a central role in supporting the development of a dissertation project as well as supervising the student’s progress on the dissertation. Advisors also support a student’s career post-completion. Advisors collaborate with the graduate program’s Director of Graduate Study (DGS) to make sure that all parties are aware of relevant expectations for progress through the program.

Mentoring is an active process by which faculty establish and foster relationships with graduate students by offering guidance, support, and encouragement aimed at developing their competence and character. Mentors listen actively to mentee’s concerns and care about their personal and professional well-being. Mentors want to help graduate students further develop their strengths, work through challenges, achieve academic excellence, and advance professionally in career paths of the student’s choosing. Mentors act as advocates and role models for their mentees and are committed to helping graduate students meet their personal and professional goals.

While a student should always have an “official” advisor, graduate students generally benefit from having a broader network of mentors with complementary strengths. Graduate students are encouraged to build a network of mentors.

Brown University has developed a brief statement on Getting the Most from Advisors and Mentors.
PhD Student Funding

“Five-Year Guarantee”
- 5 years - *normally consecutive* – plus 4 summers of support
- Any source: TA, RA, internal Fellowship or external Fellowship
- 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 Sciences 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 Overview

- Paid Monthly
- Your Program Initiates the Appointment
- Graduate School Processes Payment via Workday
- What You Should Do:
  - Set up bank account
  - **Complete I-9 Form:**
    - Today until 4pm: J. Walter Wilson, Brown Business Center, 2nd Floor
  - **International Students:**
    - Please complete FNIS information online
Stipend Overview

- **What You Should Do:**
  - 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](#) & Complete FNIS online
You Can Apply For…

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

- **Research Travel Funds (non-BioMed only):**
  - 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 research
  - Register with **SOS**!

- **Global Mobility Research Fellowship**
  - Semester or summer of pre-dissertation or dissertation research abroad
Applying for External Grants

- Part of Professional Development
  - Clarify thinking and impact
  - Enhance communication skills
  - Receive feedback

- Wide range, including:
  - Fulbright and Fulbright-Hays
  - NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program
  - Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans

- Graduate School Incentive Policy
Where to Find Essential Information
Graduate School Handbook
Policies & Procedures
Program information (links to handbooks)
Forms
Important Dates & Deadlines
News & information
Social Media
Contacts
Staying Current

- Graduate School emails
- Today@Brown
- Monthly E-Newsletter
- Grad School Social Media
  - Twitter: @BrownGradSchool
  - Facebook: Brown Graduate School
Staying in touch:
Feel free to meet with a Dean. See the website for open office hours or make an appointment.

We serve all graduate students.
Sampling of Resources

- University Library (physical & virtual)
- University Health Services
- Brown Center for Students of Color
- Sarah Doyle Women’s Center
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Office of Student Life
- Chaplains and Religious Life Office
- LGBTQ Resource Center
- Computing and Information Services
- Athletics and Physical Education
- Student and Employee Accessibility Services (SEAS)
Student Support Services

Maria Suarez, Associate Dean for Student Support
Graduate School: Horace Mann 108
- Personal or family emergencies
- Medical and psychological concerns, leaves, referrals
- Parental relief
- Academic difficulty, stress, illness, concerned about a peer
- Deputy Title IX Officer
CAPS: Counseling and Psychological Services

Counseling and Psychological Services
J Walter Wilson (5th Floor)

- Saturday Hours for Grad Students only at University Health
- Shopping Period Walk-In Services
  No appointment needed in first 2 weeks of semester
- Urgent Care Clinician available for walk-ins
- Multi-lingual (counseling in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Arabic)
- Student Care Coordinator assists in outside referrals
Other Resources for Support

- Health Services
  - Medical Care
  - BWell Health Promotion
  - SHARE Advocates (Sexual Harassment & Assault Resources & Education)
  - CAPS
    13 Brown Street

- Ombuds Office
  Ruthy Kohorn Rosenberg
  Ombuds@brown.edu
  Hillel (3rd Floor)

- Office of the Chaplains
  J Walter Wilson (4th Floor)
Orientation Schedule

Next up – Gender Inclusion at Brown University
11:45 am – Campus Resource Fair in Sayles Hall
1:00 pm – Lunch!
Orientation Schedule

2:00 pm GSC Panel in Salomon 101

3:00 & 3:40 pm: Sessions on Advising, Distinctive Opportunities, Diversity & Inclusion & to take the Codes Course

1-9 at J. Walter Wilson, 2nd Floor, Brown Business Center until 4 pm
Tours!

Walking Tours: Navigating Brown and Its History
Get to know the campus area while also learning about the University's historical relationship to slavery and the transatlantic slave trade

Departures at 3:45 pm and 4:20 pm
Meeting point: In front of Salomon, Main Green

Traditional Campus Walk
Includes information on the Greens, libraries, gym & other facilities on campus.

Departures at 4:00 pm and 4:35 pm
Meeting point: In front of Sayles Hall, Main Green
Welcome to Rene Davis, Title IX Program Officer

Policies and resources dedicated to creating and maintaining a safe environment, where healthy, respectful, and consensual conduct represents the campus cultural norm and gender-based harassment is not tolerated.