



Team Chel includes master's students: Daniella Willocks (Computer Science), Connor Volpi (Public Health), and Joyce Sunday (Biotechnology).

Graduate Students at the Center for Entrepreneurship

It's been a busy inaugural year at the Jonathan M. Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship, with new initiatives engaging graduate student entrepreneurs, as scholars, researchers, and innovators. This June, Breakthrough Lab (B-Lab), an intensive 8-week accelerator program, launched with 12 student ventures: five of the teams were fully or partly composed of graduate students.

One graduate student team is STA Technology, which brings together Chang Liu, a Ph.D. student in Chemistry who is also pursuing a Master's in PRIME (through the Open Graduate Education program) and Ning Zhang, an incoming Master's student in Biomedical Engineering. This duo is putting their research and entrepreneurial skills to work to solve limitations with blood pressure monitoring devices.

The Center introduced a new Summer Scholars Program and collaborated with

the Business, Entrepreneurship, and Organization program for the Hazeltine Fellowship for Graduate Research on Entrepreneurship, supporting five doctoral students this summer to pursue research questions in the realms of entrepreneurship education, diversity, and inequality.

In addition to the Center's programs, graduate students participated in and spoke at the December day-long academic research conference on Entrepreneurship at the Intersection of Diversity and Inequality. The Center also brought back Graduate School alumni, including Don Stanford (B.A. '72, M.S. '77), Chief Innovation Officer at IGT (formerly GTech), who was a panelist at the Entrepreneurial Stories from First-Generation and People of Color Alumni event in the Fall.



DEAN'S REFLECTION

June 30th concluded my first year as dean of the Graduate School. To the position of dean I have brought my own experiences as a graduate student and faculty member, and I have used these to think about your needs as students. Doing so has involved reflecting on "What has changed in graduate education at Brown and nationally?", "What has not changed, but should?" and "What changes we want to implement that add to the distinctiveness of your graduate experiences?". These questions have helped to establish a number of important goals that we have met this year.

One of the most informative experiences for me this past year was the opportunity to participate as a guest at the Ivy Plus Universities Graduate Student Council meeting held here at Brown, hosted by our Graduate Student Council (GSC). Graduate student leaders attended from Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, UPenn, Princeton, and Yale, among other institutions. I was reminded of the extent to which Brown University graduate students are involved in important university decision-making processes: more so than at many other universities, our students have significant and impactful roles in shaping our campus. Our graduate students hold membership and voting rights on the University Resources Committee, responsible for



OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES



Adam Nitensen, PhD candidate in Neuroscience and Arielle Nitensen Ph.D. '17 at Commencement with baby Ava.

Graduate School Family Friendly Initiatives

Two new initiatives launched in the 2016-2017 academic year have strengthened support for graduate students parents: a revised parental relief policy, which significantly expands support for new parents, and the Community Fellows program.

Since July 2016, over 20 graduate student parents have elected parental relief status. Arielle Nitenson Ph.D. '17 was one of the first cohort of students to elect parental relief. Designed to help graduate student parents balance parenting responsibilities with academic and professional pursuits, the new policy provides eligible doctoral students with a full semester or summer of relief from academic responsibilities for the birth or adoption of a child.

“I felt supported by the policy.

Brown Graduate School understands there are other aspects to our lives just as important as our education,” says Nitenson who begins a one-year position as Assistant Professor of Physiological Psychology at Rhode Island College this Fall.

The Graduate School piloted the Graduate Community Fellows program in Spring 2017 semester. Ten graduate student fellows were selected to lead initiatives aimed at strengthening the Brown graduate community and fostering a culture that respects and celebrates, inclusion, and equity. Two community fellows, Kristin Stover and Lydia Kelow-Bennett, led family-friendly initiatives, including A Day at the Providence Children Museum and a Picnic at Lippitt Park. They were joined by fellows leading initiatives international community, master’s community, health & wellness, and race & social justice. This fall, the Graduate School is looking to select a new cohort of Community Fellows.

Doctoral Advising Task Force

Doctoral advising is a cornerstone of successful graduate education. Recognizing the crucial role of excellent advising, the Graduate School—at the request of Provost Richard Locke—has convened a Task Force on Doctoral Advising, chaired by Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Thomas A. Lewis.

Bringing together faculty from across the University who share a deep commitment to advising and mentoring, the task force recognizes the shifting contexts and needs of graduate education. The task force is particularly concerned to address how advising should respond to an increasingly diverse student body as well as to the needs of doctoral students pursuing careers beyond the academy. The group is developing University-wide standards for best practices for doctoral advising as well as expanding the collection of web resources for both faculty and graduate students about how to optimize the advisor-advisee relationship.

This fall, Lewis will convene focus groups of graduate students to deepen our understanding of the most pressing issues in doctoral advising at Brown today. In order to engage the faculty as a whole in reflecting on the most effective forms of doctoral advising, the committee is also elaborating a range of materials that will be rolled out to departments this fall in order to prompt discussion. Finally, the task force will be developing better strategies for tracking outcomes in order to identify and respond to emerging patterns in effective advising.

Center for Careers and Life After Brown (CareerLAB)

Come one, come all, and come now (or at least before you think you need us)! CareerLAB is a valuable resource for graduate students at all stages of study.



CareerLAB offers individual advising services and extensive programming focused on career information and job search assistance. Services are geared to both master’s and doctoral students, in both the academic and non-academic realms.

Entering graduate students may be interested in professional development programs such as Positioning Yourself for Success. For those ready to seek a job, program offerings include: The Academic Job Search; Finding a Post-Doc; The Job Search for Master’s Students; and Strategies for the Non-academic Job Search. No matter where you are in your studies, join us for regular skill-building workshops, including interview techniques, CV and cover letter writing, resume writing, using social media for the job search, and networking.

All graduate students are invited to attend the Graduate Student Career Options Conference (GradCON) on November 11, which brings Brown graduate student alums back to campus for a full day of career exploration panels and networking. Alums share their career experiences and advice within business, research, government, and non-profits.

Brown Joins National Study

Brown is one of 29 institutions selected to



participate in a nationwide effort to study doctoral student aspirations and alumni careers in humanities and STEM fields with the Council of Graduate Schools. During the multi-year project, universities will collect data from current Ph.D. students and alumni. The resulting information will allow universities to analyze Ph.D. career preferences and outcomes in order to strengthen career services, professional development opportunities, and mentoring in doctoral programs.

New International Graduate Student Summer Programs



International Graduate Student Orientation

Graduate assistants, Gaia Gianni and Pinar Durgun, collaborated this summer to recruit and train Graduate Student Peers to lead discussions at International Orientation and organized a variety of optional activities for new students. Durgun also designed campus tours specifically for graduate students.

English Language Program

Eighteen incoming international graduate students took part in a two-week intensive English program in August. Participants attended academic English sessions led by the English Language Learning Specialist, Sara Gramley, heard lectures by current graduate students, and visited sites on campus and in Providence. The program aims to help multilingual students become more comfortable and confident in their use of English before beginning their academic programs.

New Title IX Program Officer Joins Brown

Rene Davis, an experienced leader in higher education, began at Brown in July and now oversees the University's Title IX office. Her primary responsibility is to manage compliance with the federal anti-discrimination law, which establishes guidelines for college campuses regarding sexual and gender-based violence. Davis spent more than 20 years in higher education administration at Mount Holyoke College and the University

of North Carolina School for the Arts, working with students, faculty and staff in roles that have included residence hall director, director of residential life, dean of students and associate dean of the college.



MPH students Katherine Waye and Henry Sookram spent time in South Africa this summer conducting research for their theses with the iALARM Project in Gugulethu, a township near Cape Town.

Sookram interviewed Community Action Team members about their perceptions of gender, HIV/AIDS, and their outreach efforts. Waye conducted interviews to understand men's notions of support, who they seek for help, and how these support mechanisms impact their health, especially in the context of HIV/AIDS.

The iALARM Project helps men with HIV infection improve their health & as well as for their partners, families, and communities and the Gugulethu office is under co-administration with Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Mark Lurie.



Global Mobility Fellowship



Congratulations to the 2017-2018 recipients of the Global Mobility Fellowship!

Pictured above: Felipe Brugges, Lauren Deal, Javier Fernandez Galeano, and Daniel McDonald

Not pictured: Aimee Bourassa, Yifeng Cai, Violet Cavicchi, Arjee Restar, John Smith, and Haiwang Yong

Awards

Taylor-Singleton Named Simmons Scholar

Jalisia Taylor-Singleton, an incoming graduate student in the master's program in Urban Education Policy, was named the 2017 winner of the Ruth J. Simmons Urban Education Policy Scholarship, a full-tuition award.



Alum Wins ASA Dissertation Award

Karida Leigh Brown Ph.D. '16 received a 2017 American Sociological Association Award for her dissertation, *Before They Were Diamonds: The Intergenerational Migration of Kentucky's Coal Camp Blacks*.



Two Doctoral Students Receive Ford Foundation Fellowships

Amanda Boston (Africana Studies) and Elizabeth Rule (American Studies) were awarded Ford Foundation Fellowships for 2017. The awards are given by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Jawin Elected as AWG Delegate

Doctoral student Erica Jawin (Earth, Environ. & Planetary Science), was elected as a delegate for the Association for Women Geoscientists Northeast region. Her term begins in October.



Brown University
Graduate School
Box 1867, 47 George Street
Providence, RI 02912

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage PAID
Providence, RI
Permit No. 202

www.brown.edu/gradschool



HIGHLIGHTS

Dean's Reflection

Graduate Student Entrepreneurs

Family-Friendly Initiatives

Doctoral Advising Task Force

New Title IX Program Officer

Student Awards

RECENT INITIATIVES AT BROWN

8 new research, teaching, or professional development programs for graduate students

5 new or expanded positions to serve graduate students

Expanded support for humanities and social science PhD students

No-cost dental insurance for eligible PhD students

Supportive new-parent policy for eligible students

Wernig Graduate Student Study Center

Expanded international orientation and outreach

Dedicated Commencement ceremony and awards for master's students



Adam Nitensen, PhD candidate in Neuroscience and Arielle Nitensen Ph.D. '17 at Commencement with baby Ava.

Graduate School Family Friendly Initiatives

Two new initiatives launched in the 2016-2017 academic year have strengthened support for graduate students parents: a revised parental relief policy, which significantly expands support for new parents, and the Community Fellows program.

Since July 2016, over 20 graduate student parents have elected parental relief status. Arielle Nitenson Ph.D. '17 was one of the first cohort of students to elect parental relief. Designed to help graduate student parents balance parenting responsibilities with academic and professional pursuits, the new policy provides eligible doctoral students with a full semester or summer of relief from academic responsibilities for the birth or adoption of a child.

“I felt supported by the policy. Brown Graduate School understands there are other aspects to our lives just as important as our education,” says Nitenson who begins a one-year position as Assistant Professor of Physiological Psychology at Rhode Island College this Fall.

The Graduate School piloted the Graduate Community Fellows program in Spring 2017 semester. Ten graduate student fellows were selected to lead initiatives aimed at strengthening the Brown graduate community and fostering a culture that respects and celebrates, inclusion, and equity.

Two community fellows, Kristin Stover and Lydia Kelow-Bennett, led family-friendly initiatives, including A Day at the Providence Children Museum and a Picnic at Lippitt Park. They were joined by fellows leading initiatives international community, master’s community, health & wellness, and race & social justice. This fall, the Graduate School is looking to select a new cohort of Community Fellows.



DEAN’S REFLECTION

June 30th concluded my first year as dean of the Graduate School. To the position of dean I have brought my own experiences as a graduate student and faculty member, and I have used these to think about your needs as students. Doing so has involved reflecting on “What has changed in graduate education at Brown and nationally?”, “What has not changed, but should?” and “What changes we want to implement that add to the distinctiveness of your graduate experiences?”. These questions have helped to establish a number of important goals that we have met this year.

One of the most informative experiences for me this past year was the opportunity to participate as a guest at the Ivy Plus Universities Graduate Student Council meeting held here at Brown, hosted by our Graduate Student Council (GSC). Graduate student leaders attended from Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, UPenn, Princeton, and Yale, among other institutions. I was reminded of the extent to which Brown University graduate students are involved in important university decision-making processes: more so than at many other universities, our students have significant and impactful roles in shaping our campus. Our graduate students hold membership and voting rights on the University Resources Committee, responsible for



OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES



Graduate Students at the Center for Entrepreneurship

It's been a busy inaugural year at the Jonathan M. Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship, with new initiatives engaging graduate student entrepreneurs, as scholars, researchers, and innovators. This June, Breakthrough Lab (B-Lab), an intensive 8-week accelerator program, launched with 12 student ventures: five of the teams were fully or partly composed of graduate students.

Team Che! includes master's students: **Daniella Willocks (Computer Science), Connor Volpi (Public Health), and Joyce Sunday (Biotechnology).**

One graduate student team is STA Technology, which brings together

Chang Liu, a Ph.D. student in Chemistry who is also pursuing a Master's in PRIME (through the Open Graduate Education program) and Ning Zhang, an incoming Master's student in Biomedical Engineering. This duo is putting their research and entrepreneurial skills to work to solve limitations with blood pressure monitoring devices.

The Center introduced a new Summer Scholars Program and collaborated with the Business, Entrepreneurship, and Organization program for the Hazeltine Fellowship for Graduate Research on Entrepreneurship, supporting five doctoral students this summer to pursue research questions in the realms of entrepreneurship education, diversity, and inequality.

In addition to the Center's programs, graduate students participated in and spoke at the December day-long academic research conference on Entrepreneurship at the Intersection of Diversity and Inequality. The Center also brought back Graduate School alumni, including Don Stanford (B.A. '72, M.S. '77), Chief Innovation Officer at IGT (formerly GTech), who was a panelist at the Entrepreneurial Stories from First-Generation and People of Color Alumni event in the Fall.

Doctoral Advising Task Force

Doctoral advising is a cornerstone of successful graduate education. Recognizing the crucial role of excellent advising, the Graduate School—at the request of Provost Richard Locke—has convened a Task Force on Doctoral Advising, chaired by Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Thomas A. Lewis.

Bringing together faculty from across the University who share a deep commitment to advising and mentoring, the task force recognizes the shifting contexts and needs of graduate education. The task force is particularly concerned to address how advising should respond to an increasingly diverse student body as well as to the needs of doctoral students pursuing careers beyond the academy. The group is developing University-wide standards for best practices for doctoral advising as well as expanding the collection of web resources for both faculty and graduate students about how to optimize the advisor-advisee relationship.

This fall, Lewis will convene focus groups of graduate students to deepen our understanding of the most pressing issues in doctoral advising at Brown today. In order to engage the faculty as a whole in reflecting on the most effective forms of doctoral advising, the committee is also elaborating a range of materials that will be rolled out to departments this fall in order to prompt discussion. Finally, the task force will be developing better strategies for tracking outcomes in order to identify and respond to emerging patterns in effective advising.

Center for Careers and Life After Brown (CareerLAB)

Come one, come all, and come now (or at least before you think you need us)! CareerLAB is a valuable resource for graduate students at all stages of your course of study.



CareerLAB offers individual advising services and extensive programming focused on career information and job search assistance. Services are geared to both master's and doctoral students, in both the academic and non-academic realms.

Entering graduate students may be interested in professional development programs such as Positioning Yourself for Success. For those ready to seek a job, program offerings include: The Academic Job Search; Finding a Post-Doc; The Job Search for Master's Students; and Strategies for the Non-academic Job Search. No matter where you are in your studies, join us for regular skill-building workshops, including interview techniques, CV and cover letter writing, resume writing, using social media for the job search, and networking.

All graduate students are invited to attend the Graduate Student Career Options Conference (GradCON) on November 11, which brings Brown graduate student alums back to campus for a full day of career exploration panels and networking. Alums share their career experiences and advice within business, research, government, and non-profits.

Brown Joins National Study

Brown is one of 29 institutions selected to



participate in a nationwide effort to study doctoral student aspirations and alumni careers in humanities and STEM fields with the Council of Graduate Schools. During the multi-year project, universities will collect data from current Ph.D. students and alumni. The resulting information will allow universities to analyze Ph.D. career preferences and outcomes in order to strengthen career services, professional development opportunities, and mentoring in doctoral programs.