



Amanda Boston '18 PhD on Her Current Work and Selection as a New Alumni Trustee

Boston earned her Ph.D. in Africana Studies and is currently working as the Provost's Postdoctoral Fellow and as Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow at the Marron Institute of Urban Management at New York University. She was recently elected as a New Alumni Trustee on the Corporation for Brown University.

At NYU, I am continuing my research on race, gentrification, and inequality in my hometown of Brooklyn, New York. I am also assisting the Office of the Provost with the Urban Initiative and the Strategies to Reduce Inequality Initiative, which bring students, faculty, and other stakeholders together to address challenges facing cities and their residents. The unique structure of my fellowship allows me to see how the university operates at a number of levels, from research and teaching to viewing different projects with an administrative lens and working with practitioners to apply theory and enact positive change. Overall, the whole experience has been pretty exciting.

I'm really glad to be home with a community that is dear to me, with the opportunity to tell a story that is so important at this historical moment for people here and in other cities experiencing similar transformations.

Attending the Black Alumni Reunion in September 2018 left a huge impression on me. Seeing so many people invested in the well-being and success of students who graduated decades after them – even when their time in college was difficult – was a powerful reminder of what we owe to ourselves and to one another when we have access to institutions like Brown. I'm definitely carrying that message about the power of community and the importance of giving back into my work and my role as New Alumni Trustee.

As an alumni trustee, I want to help ensure that the Board's processes and its actions reflect the important work students, faculty, and staff have done to make the University more just. I have learned a great deal from and alongside people who have been at the vanguard of change at Brown, working to diversify the student body, the curriculum, and the professoriate, to improve graduate students' quality of life, and to ensure that the demands of 1968 and beyond are addressed and met in good faith. My goal is to ensure that decision-making at the highest level reflects the reality that Brown's commitments to innovation, rigor, and collaborative community-building will only be fully realized if its commitments to equity and inclusion are as well. Read more: brown.edu/gradschool/Boston

[Read more at brown.edu/gradschool](http://brown.edu/gradschool)



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Andrew G. Campbell

As the academic year begins, I would like to welcome our new graduate students to campus and to wish our continuing students a smooth transition back to Providence.

For new graduate students attending Orientation, I hope that you will review the schedules closely and attend as many sessions as possible. Your successful launch into your graduate studies is critically important to us at the Graduate School. We hope that Orientation will help you to take full advantage of the many resources here at Brown during your studies.

Similarly, I wish to remind returning graduate students of the various resources and support available to ensure your success. I am especially proud of some of the recent initiatives introduced, including the enhanced support of our graduate student parents and the launch of the Graduate Student Digital CV (see article inside).

I look forward to seeing you at the many events celebrating the start of the new semester, including Convocation on September 3, 2019 or at my open office hours during the semester.

Dean Campbell's Office Hours:

Mondays, 2 - 3 pm
Horace Mann 202, unless
otherwise noted on website.

Dissertation Writing Retreat: July 2019



Summer Dissertation Writing Retreat: Nineteen new and six returning PhD students took part in a week long retreat. Many retreaters met for the first time, developing a collegial energy and strong community. This program is hosted by the Graduate School and the Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning. Next retreat: January 2020.

Graduate Student Digital CV Project Launched

The Graduate Student Digital CV (GSDCV), a tool for tracking student achievements as teachers, mentors, and researchers, was launched in late July. At the core of graduate study is a series of ongoing conversations between graduate students, their faculty mentors, and their colleagues.

The GSDCV is designed to help foster these conversations with an eye towards planning for opportunities one to three years down the road. It will also streamline applications submitted through UFunds. Doctoral students are encouraged to take a few minutes to look over the GSDCV as they meet with faculty during orientation or a return to campus.

The Graduate School encourages students to think about milestones on the way to their degree and talk to your advisors and colleagues about them. Keep an eye on Today@Brown for roll-out events and give-aways.

Learn more: brown.edu/gradschool/GSDCV

Bilingual Summer Show Led by MFA Student Tatyana-Marie Carlo

Trinity Repertory Company, in partnership with Rhode Island Latino Arts (RILA), produced its fourth annual summer bilingual show directed by MFA student Tatyana-Marie Carlo. Teatro en El Verano (Theater in the Summer) is a bilingual English-Spanish adaptation of William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* (*Tanta Bulla... ¿Y Pa' Qué?*).

This is Carlo's second year in the director's seat. She is a native of Miami, FL and will be entering her third and final year in the Brown/Trinity Acting and Directing program this fall.



On why she chose this particular play, Carlo says, "what captivated me about *Much Ado About Nothing* was the heart of the play. In this production, we celebrate the beauty of love, reconciliation, and the joyful expression of Latinidad. We will salsa, merengue, and bachata our way through *Tanta Bulla... ¿Y Pa' Qué?* in the liveliest way we know how."

This year's performance included more music. "I want them to leave and think, That was so much fun. If they leave with joy in their hearts, we will have accomplished our job," says Carlo.

Global Mobility Fellowships

Eight doctoral students were awarded Global Mobility Research Fellowships for the 2019-20 academic year:

- Laura Chilson-Parks, History of Art and Architecture
- Lubabah Chowdhury, English
- Danielle Falzon, Sociology
- Julia Hurley, Archaeology and the Ancient World
- Rehan Jamil, Political Science
- Mayer Juni, History
- Tommaso Pepe, Italian Studies
- Ieva Zumbyte, Sociology

Fellowship awardees will travel to Bangladesh, France, Pakistan, India, Mexico, Israel and England to significantly advance their research. They study a wide range of subjects, from social policy and citizenship to childcare provisions and anti-fascist resistance in Italy.

"The Global Mobility fellowship will enable me to continue field work, and combine a variety of different research methods to understand how social policy interventions such as cash transfer programs impact state-citizen engagement and the politics that shape their provision" says Jamil.



New Degree Conferrals

The University has recently moved to begin awarding graduate degrees in October and February, as well as May.

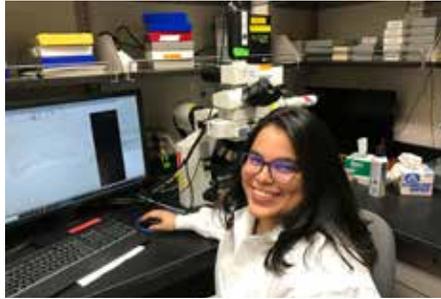


This allows students who complete after the May deadline to formally graduate much earlier than in previous years. Commencement ceremonies will continue to take place once a year in May.

For additional details and deadlines: brown.edu/go/graddegreeconferral

Manzano Nieves Combines Science and Public Policy

Gabriela Manzano Nieves is interested in the effects of early life stress (ELS) on brain development. A doctoral student in Neuroscience, her research uses mice as models to determine how ELS may delay and/or alter brain growth. Yet, Manzano Nieves' interests lie beyond the purely scientific. Using science to aid in the crafting of sound and just public policy is also a key part of her work.



Through participation in the Open Graduate Education (Open Grad) program, she is able to merge these two interests to help bridge science with policy making. The Open Grad program enables doctoral students to pursue a master's degree in a second field. In Manzano Nieves' case, she is earning a master's in Public Affairs.

"Open Grad is a great opportunity to pursue a field of study that I was passionate about. I have always been interested in public administration, specifically as it pertains to government policy implementation, and how these policies can shape behavior and beliefs. Whether that be through taxation, incentives, punishment, or education, the governmental sector has the largest ability, and resources, to shape public opinion, perception, and behavior. This power can greatly impact how we interact with each other and how we view the world and the people around us," she says. Read more: brown.edu/gradschool/Nieves

Summer Professional Development



Gaia Gianni, a PhD candidate in Classics, shares scenes from the summer course she is teaching in Rome for Brown's PreCollege Program.

"Making of an Eternal City" is an introductory class to both Roman history and topography where high school students learn by visiting archaeological sites.

Gianni is a social historian: "I wanted the students to learn about gender, slavery, political propaganda, and much more, going beyond memorizing battles and emperors," she says.

Her dissertation is on childcare during the Roman Empire, using inscriptions, or short Latin texts carved on stone, from the city of Rome as her main source.

"Being in Rome and seeing the archaeological sites, experiencing their sizes, relative proximity and even crowds, gives me almost a glimpse of what the city would have been like," says Gianni.

Master's Student Focus: Prateek Samal, Public Affairs

Prateek is from Odisha, India and completed his undergraduate degree in Business Administration and Economics from Marist College.

The beginning of my year at Brown has been rewarding! Statistics and Economics have been by far the most intense courses I have ever taken. They have also been incredibly interesting and thought-provoking. I hope to build my experience as a policy analyst and aim to analyze policies on a wide array of topics, and seek out the most efficient ways of implementing them. Brown has given me access to incredible professional connections and resources that I hope to leverage to further push my personal development. Read more: brown.edu/gradschool/Samal



Awards

White and Cothorn Win Fulbrights

For the third year in a row, Brown is the nation's top Fulbright-producing university.

Graduate students Melanie White and Keegan Cothorn are among those selected in 2019. White is a doctoral candidate in Africana



Studies who will travel to Nicaragua; Cothorn is a PhD student in History who will travel to Japan.

"Being awarded a Fulbright is an extreme honor and privilege that will allow me to conduct my international dissertation research in Nicaragua. I have been planning to conduct this research since my early years as an undergraduate, and it is incredibly affirming to know that the Fulbright program believes in and has decided to support my project," says White. Read more: brown.edu/gradschool/WhiteandCothorn

Navarrete Wins Simmons Scholarship



Master's student Yvonne Navarrete is the 2019 Ruth J. Simmons Urban Education Policy Scholarship recipient. She is excited to

learn from experts in the field of education and to develop the skills needed to evaluate and understand the world of urban education politics and policies. "I am looking forward to placement opportunities and to begin learning from and contributing to the Providence community. The invaluable work experience will help me become a more prepared agent of change," says Navarrete.



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HIGHLIGHTS

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Student Awards

RECENT INITIATIVES AT BROWN

- New advising and mentoring resources for faculty and graduate students
- New research, teaching and professional development programs for graduate students
- Expanded English language support
- Strengthened child care subsidy, new child dependent health insurance subsidy, and enhanced new-parent policy for eligible students
- Graduate Student of Color Orientation
- Wernig Graduate Student Study Center
- No-cost dental insurance for eligible PhD students
- PhD Certificates
- Transitional stipend for incoming doctoral and MFA students
- Expanded international student support