Greetings Graduate and Professional Students! Congratulations on surviving your first few weeks of the semester! Read on to learn about upcoming events, important announcements, and information about campus resources.

Stay up to date by joining the GA mailing list to receive future Delegates Digests and GA Press Releases

Announcements:
○ Ever wondered about the average stipend for PhD students in your department? Or whether all students in your program have equitable degree completion rates? - see the UC Doctoral Program Statistics and sort the data by UC campus and program.
○ The Graduate Division has revised the minimum requirements for higher degree committees including eliminating the requirement for a member outside the degree granting unit - see below for more details.
○ Grant applications are now open!
  ○ The Wellness Fund provides grants to support a range of projects that focus on creating a culture of Wellness for the student body. Apply by Oct. 6th.
  ○ The Student Technology Fund (STF) provides grants to fund software licensing and student technology projects. Apply by Oct. 7.
  ○ The Green Initiative Fund provides grants for projects which address environmental sustainability and/or environmental justice. Apply by Oct. 25th.
○ The GA is seeking graduate students to fill the following paid positions:
  ○ GA Student Case Manager - job card
  ○ International and Undocumented Students Project Director - job card

Upcoming Events:
Submit your upcoming event to the next Delegates Digest by filling out the submission form
○ Graduate Minority Student Project (GMSP) in collaboration with the Womxn of Color Initiative
  ○ Ice Cream Social for Grad Students of Color - Sep. 16th, 5:30pm, Graduate Assembly Terrace (444 Eshleman Hall)
○ Latinx Association of Graduate Students in Engineering and Sciences (LAGSES)
  ○ Semester Kick-Off Event - Sep. 18th, 5:30pm, Pat Brown’s Cafe Lawn
○ Graduate Writing Center - Fall Workshop Series
  ○ Getting the Mentoring You Need in Graduate School - Sep. 25, 2pm, 309 Sproul Hall - registration required
○ How to Write an Academic Grant Proposal - Oct. 4, 1pm, 309 Sproul Hall - registration required
○ Graduate Student Town Hall - Sep. 26th, 3:30pm, Alumni House Toll Room
○ The Graduate Social Club (GSC)
  ○ Graduate breakfast & coffee hour - Sep. 27th, time & location TBD
○ For a full list of events, check out the GA Events Calendar

Get Involved!
○ Campus committee representatives needed!
○ Graduate Minority Student Project (GMSP): advocating for underrepresented graduate students
○ Join the ASUC Judicial Council - fill out the interest form by Sep. 20.
○ Attend campus Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) and Campus Master Plan (CMP) Workshops - fill out the interest form by Sep. 20.
○ Join the Student Tech Fund Referendum Renewal Exploration Group (RREG): a multi-stakeholder group interested in exploring and advocating for the renewal of the Student Technology Fee
○ Join the Student Technology Council (STC): advise senior IT leaders about the comprehensive student technology experience - apply by Sep. 22

Additional Resources:
○ UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement provides up to $5000 in funding for programs, activities, and research which further the mission of the Center - apply today
○ The Bears for Financial Success program has a new finance software call iGrad which can help students with personal money management skills and provides scholarship search tools.
○ Need funding for your student organization? Learn more about GA funding opportunities

Get Connected!
○ Submit to the Delegates Digest by filling out the submission form
○ Follow the GA on Facebook and Twitter
○ Learn more about GA projects, resources, and funding opportunities for graduate students.

Announcements

Changes to minimum requirements for higher degree committee composition
The following changes have been made to the Policies Governing Composition of Higher Degree Committees (including committees for Master’s theses, doctoral qualifying examinations, and doctoral dissertations). Please note that these are changes to the minimum requirements and graduate degree programs that wish to retain their current requirements may do so - speak with your GSAO to learn about the specific requirements for your department.
  1. For higher degree committees, any member of the Academic Senate can serve as the Academic Senate Representative regardless of departmental, school, or graduate group affiliation. The prohibition against non-Senate faculty serving in this role remains in place.
2. For higher degree committees, the chair or co-chair of the committee must be an Academic Senate member who is a member of the degree granting unit. There are no other requirements regarding the percentage of members from the degree granting unit, or from outside the unit (e.g., a committee can come entirely from within the degree granting unit).

3. For all higher degree committees, the head graduate advisor (HGA) in the student’s degree granting unit must approve the composition of the committee.

For more details, see the memo issued by the Graduate Division.

Wellness Fund - Grant applications now open!
The Wellness Fund provides grants for one-time or multi-year funding for any campus unit or student group which aims to create a culture of Wellness for the student body. Proposals might address wellness needs of underserved student populations or promote general wellness services. Some examples of projects include:

- **Individual-level projects**: conducting health classes, providing access to health-related supplies, providing access to holistic health and wellbeing activities.
- **Community-based projects**: expanding prevention and treatment services into community-based settings, culturally-informed programs and services which address the unique needs of underserved student populations.
- **Campus culture and environment projects**: creating new campus spaces to address the volume and frequency of use of cardio, strength training and multipurpose spaces; creating new or improved relaxation spaces; advocating for wellness promoting policies and practices that support a healthy campus culture.

*The 2019-2020 grant application is now open - attend a mandatory workshop (9/17 at 4pm, 9/25 at 2pm, 9/30 at 4pm) and submit proposals by Oct. 6th. Apply today!*  

Student Technology Fund - Grant applications now open!
The Student Technology Fund (STF) is comprised of the fees that undergraduate, graduate, and professional students pay into. It uses these fees to fund software licensing and the funding pool for three grant cycles per year. The grants are available to all members of the Cal community and can fund a wide range of project categories:

- Apps & Software Development
- Commercial Software Licensing
- Equipment Acquisition
- Investigative & Planning Projects
- Technology Events
- Training, Support & Access to Technology

*The first grant cycle ($5000 or less) is now open and applications are due on Oct. 7th. Apply today!*  

Green Initiative Fund - Grant applications now open!
The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) is UC Berkeley’s Campus Green Fund. TGIF provides funding, via grants, for projects that improve and support UC Berkeley’s campus sustainability efforts. TGIF provides grants for projects which...

- promote sustainable modes of transportation
○ increase energy and water efficiency
○ restore habitat
○ promote environmental and food justice
○ reduce the amount of waste created by UC Berkeley

*Applications for the fall mini-grant program are due by Oct. 25th. Apply today!*  

*GA is hiring a Student Case Manager*

The GA Vice President for Equity and Inclusion (VPEI) and the Student Advocate’s Office (SAO) is looking to hire a GA Student Case Manager. The Case Manager will primarily support the SAO Divisions with select graduate-student case work, support the VPEI and Student Advocate on campus-level policy advocacy, and assist in managing the GA Student Opportunity and Success Fund. The position tenure is through May 15, 2020 and includes a $1,000 per month stipend.  
*The full job description and instructions to apply can be found [here].*

*GA is hiring an International and Undocumented Students Project Director*

The Graduate Assembly’s International and Undocumented Student Project (IUSP) seeks to improve the lives and experiences of international and undocumented graduate and professional students at UC Berkeley. The IUSP Project Director will work to advocate for international and undocumented graduate student interests in campus spaces, build networks of communication between the international and undocumented student populations and campus decisionmakers, and work to develop and support community activities to serve these students, to ensure their success in higher education and beyond. The position tenure through June 30, 2020 and includes a $1,000 per month stipend.  
*The full job description and instructions to apply can be found [here].*

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*Get Involved!*

**Join a Campus Committee**

Whether you are passionate about academic planning, healthcare, diversity, or athletics, there is a campus committee for you! Graduate and professional student representation on these committees is vital to ensuring that our needs are accounted for in important campus decisions. For more information, check out the [list of available committees](#) and fill out the [Campus Committee Interest Survey](#).

**Graduate Minority Student Project (GMSP)**

The [GMSP](#) advocates for underrepresented graduate students in all aspects of academic life, monitoring all affirmative action policies and procedures as they affect underrepresented students. GMSP also provides direct services to underrepresented graduate students through social receptions, lectures, workshops and educational forums. The project goals for the semester include:

○ Professional development programming for minority graduate students
○ Advocacy and programming surrounding cultural exchange and diversity empowerment
○ Advocacy and programming surrounding departmental resources and support for minority graduate students
Learn more at the Ice Cream Social for Grad Students of Color - Sep. 16th, 5:30pm Graduate Assembly Terrace (Eshleman Hall, 4th Floor) and follow the GMSP on facebook.

ASUC Judicial Council
The GA has the opportunity to appoint three positions on the ASUC Judicial Council. The JC adjudicates disputes over ASUC bylaws and student government actions. Additionally, the JC may direct action to remedy all such disputes, interpret and maintain custody of the ASUC’s governing documents, and certify the results of the school-wide spring elections.

If you are interested, please fill out this form, including your name, department, and a brief description of your interest in serving before September 20, 2019.

Long Range Development Plan / Campus Master Plan Workshops
Campus Physical & Environmental Planning has requested that the GA recruit graduate students to attend a series of workshops on the campus's Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) and Campus Master Plan (CMP), which are currently being updated. There are six workshops, each focusing on a different aspect of the plan, which will include faculty, students, and staff: (1) Academic Life; (2) Equity & Inclusion; (3) Housing; (4) Mobility & Accessibility; (5) Resilience & Sustainability; and (6) Student Experience. Space is limited (about 8-10 graduate students each).

If you are interested, please fill out this form, including your name, department, selected workshops, and a brief description of your interest in attending before Sep. 20.

Student Tech Fund Referendum Renewal Exploration Group (RREG)
Graduate students who are interested in campus technology are invited to join RREG, a group composed of multiple stakeholders who share an interest in exploring and advocating for the renewal of the Student Technology Fee by means of a referendum to be voted on by students in Spring 2021. STF pays for the student software licenses available for download by all grad students (Microsoft Office, Adobe, MatLab, etc.) and funds grants small (i.e. paying for GradBook, sponsoring Beyond Academia events, and subsidizing Goldman School STATA access), to large (i.e. the AV renovations in Grad Div's Graduate Professional Services Center, ASUC Senate Chambers, Latinx Policy Research Center, Center for New Music and Audio Technologies, and more). Future support for efforts like these is unclear, without the STF being renewed in some fashion.

To get involved, email the mailing list with a quick introduction on who you are and your current involvement and interest in campus technology.

Student Technology Council (STC)
The STC provides graduate and undergraduate students with the opportunity to advise the Chief Information Officer and other senior IT leaders about the comprehensive student technology experience. Areas of focus may include campus WiFi and connectivity needs; tech support services for students; software and device needs and challenges, and much more. The STC is looking for 10-15 members who represent the widest possible diversity of academic programs, campus affiliations and identity groups who are eager to contribute feedback, ideas and support to the improvement of the student technology experience on campus. Previous coursework and/or experience related to technology is not a requirement - just an interest in shaping the student IT landscape.
Find out more about requirements, benefits, and how to apply here! Applications are due Sep. 22.

Additional Resources

UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement - VOICE Grant Program
The University of California National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement has announced the Valuing Open and Inclusive Conversation and Engagement (VOICE) Grant Program. Free and open discourse is essential to the mission of higher education. The Center explores how the fundamental democratic and academic principles of free speech and civic engagement should enrich the discovery and transmission of knowledge in America’s colleges and universities. Through research, advocacy, debate and discussion, the Center is dedicated to ensuring that the next generation of leaders is prepared to understand, defend and advance these values. VOICE provides up to $5,000 in funding for UC students, staff and faculty who are interested in conducting research or coordinating programs and activities that further the mission of the Center. Apply today!

Bears for Financial Success - new iGrad software
The Bears for Financial Success program helps students navigate their personal finances with basic money management skills like creating a budget, managing debt and student loans, and understanding credit. The Bears for Financial Success program recently purchased an online personal finance software called iGrad that is available now. This online tool has many valuable resources for students including budgeting and scholarship search tools to help students while they’re in school as well as resources to prepare students for life after Berkeley.

The GA Delegates Digest is brought to you by the GA Communications Team: Alanna Cooney (GA Communications Director), Liz Lawler (GA Internal VP), and Adam Orford (GA President).

To submit to the Delegates Digest, please submit your information using this form by Wednesday at 5:00pm for consideration in Monday’s digest.

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