Celebrating Graduate Education

This year, we celebrate the 150th anniversary of our university, including its world-renowned reputation for graduate education. The Graduate College was established in 1892 to ensure the high quality of an Illinois graduate degree and to provide fellowship support to graduate students. Our core mission remains the same. Yet, as times change, so do we. In today’s rapidly changing environment, graduate education matters perhaps more than ever before.

Graduate education trains students to address some of the world’s most pressing problems for the future of humanity through their research, scholarship, creative work, and community engagement. The Graduate College is committed to fostering an environment that allows students to do just that by attracting and graduating a diverse and talented corps of outstanding graduate students and by promoting innovation and excellence in graduate education.

Throughout the year, we work closely with individual graduate students, faculty, and staff to provide support and expertise at all stages of graduate education from admissions through thesis deposit and degree certification. We administer fellowships for the recruitment, development, and retention of the best and brightest graduate students from many diverse dimensions and backgrounds. Our programming and workshops help students compete for prestigious fellowships and develop strong professional skills to position them well for their future careers.

The following pages provide a by-the-numbers look at graduate education at Illinois. As you will see, we have much to celebrate.

Sincerely,

Wojtek J. Chodzko-Zajko, PhD
Dean, Graduate College
Shahid and Ann Carlson Khan Professor in Applied Health Sciences

All numbers in this report are based on AY 15-16 unless otherwise noted.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11,613</th>
<th>44%</th>
<th>8%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate students</td>
<td>International students from 101 countries</td>
<td>Underrepresented (URM) students from the U.S. and its territories</td>
</tr>
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</table>

(Fall 2016, excludes Law JD, Vet Med DVM, and CITL non-degree students)

Top 10 countries: China, India, South Korea, Taiwan, Iran, Turkey, Brazil, Indonesia, Canada, Pakistan

URM defined as: African American, Latina/Latino, American Indian, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>156</th>
<th>91</th>
<th>26</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master’s degree programs</td>
<td>Doctoral degree programs</td>
<td>Fully online graduate degree programs</td>
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<tr>
<th>560</th>
<th>2,500+</th>
<th>5th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral scholars</td>
<td>Graduate faculty</td>
<td>Nationally for number of earned doctorates</td>
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61% International
32% Female

(Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2015)

“Show me a great research university and I will show you a university with vibrant, world-class graduate students.”

~ Marybeth Gasman
Behind the Scenes
With expertise in graduate education, we work efficiently to serve our students and programs throughout the year.

1M
Recruitment & admission emails sent

16K
Registration & record change requests processed

1,800
Preliminary & final exam requests processed

4,200
Degree certification requests processed

1-day
Turnaround time for processing domestic applications

2-day
Turnaround time for processing international applications (including issuing the I-20)

2-day
Turnaround time for change of program, re-entry admissions, and petitions

4M
Visitors to our website annually

3rd
Place after Campus Recreation and the Illini Union in overall satisfaction (ISSS International Student Barometer Survey)

400+
Executive Officers, Directors of Graduate Study, and Graduate Program Contacts in academic units across campus
Attracting & Graduating Promising Students

Top 5 reasons to choose Illinois

- Program faculty or adviser
- Academic quality/reputation of a graduate program
- Communication with faculty, graduate students, and/or staff
- Cost: tuition, health benefits, financial package
- Academic quality/reputation of the institution

(Source: Graduate College AIDE surveys)

| 25,786 | 14.8% | 29.9% | 40.5% |
| Applications | Increase in applications | Increase in international applications | Increase in new URM enrollments |
| (AY 16) | (AY 11-16) | (AY 11-16) | (AY 11-16) |

- 3,394 Master’s degrees earned (AY 15)
- 731 Doctoral degrees earned (AY 15)

Excludes Law JD, Vet Med DVM, and CITL non-degree applications and admissions. Based on DMI 10-Day Enrollment Reports.
Diversifying Graduate Education

Our coordinated programming and initiatives broaden participation in graduate education.

4 Core Programs to Diversify Graduate Education

SROP  >  ASPIRE  >  COS  >  SPI

SROP @ Illinois - Summer Research Opportunities Program for rising seniors
ASPIRE - Early Application / Fall Campus Visit Program
Community of Scholars - Spring Campus Visit Program
Summer Pre-doctoral Institute for new doctoral students

1,300+
Applications to our Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP @ Illinois).

169
Summer Pre-doctoral (SPI) Fellows currently enrolled in graduate programs. Since its inception in 1999, SPI has served 463 URM graduate students.

150
Undergraduates applied to participate in the Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (URAP). 16 finalists were paired to work with 16 graduate students.

$1M
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Grant for a Sloan University Center of Exemplary Mentoring (UCEM) at Illinois to broaden participation in advanced engineering, physical, and mathematical science careers. 25 Sloan Scholars will receive $40,000 from Sloan and 25 Illinois Sloan Scholars will receive $10,000 from Illinois.

“Visiting the campus, meeting some of the faculty and graduate students and even interacting with prospective graduate students at Illinois provided valuable insight, helping me make an informed decision about my future. I know I have choices when it comes to choosing a graduate school, but thanks to the unique opportunity I was given, I am positive that UIUC is the right school for me.”

ASPIRE participant

“Community of Scholars was a phenomenal experience! Perhaps the most eye-opening aspect was the research conference, where I had a chance to see and hear what current Illinois graduate students were researching and investigating. That really gave me a taste of what was possible. And the students I met at Community of Scholars who also chose Illinois for graduate school are some of my closest friends now!”

Xuxa Rodriguez - Art History, Community of Scholars participant, Summer Pre-doctoral Institute (SPI) fellow, Graduate College fellow
Graduate College Fellowships and Funding

We provide funding to attract, develop, retain, and graduate promising students from many diverse backgrounds.

### $3.3M Awarded in Graduate College Fellowships

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Distinguished doctoral recruitment fellowships (AY 16-17)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate College recruitment fellowships for underrepresented minority students (AY 16-17)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation Completion fellowships (AY 16-17)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel awards for dissertation &amp; master’s projects (AY 15-16)</td>
<td>30</td>
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### $60K Creative & Performing Arts Fellowship Funds

- for Architecture, Art & Design, Dance, Landscape Architecture, Music, Theatre, and Urban Planning

### $4.8M Block Grant Funds Awarded (AY 14-17)

- Humanities & Creative Arts: 34%
- Behavioral & Social Sciences: 28%
- Engineering & Physical Sciences: 19%
- Biological & Agricultural Sciences: 19%
Our students win prestigious fellowships from agencies such as:
Helping Students Compete for External Funding
We teach the art of proposal writing to help graduate students win external fellowships.

1,100+ Fellowships listed in our Fellowship Finder database

150 Intensive one-on-one fellowship proposal reviews conducted

99 Active National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellows on campus, with another 42 on reserve

Here is what our students say about our services...

“Her detailed comments [in her review of my draft] were to the point, and impressed even my adviser. I cannot thank her enough for leading me through this important process of learning how to write a proper project proposal. What she has done for me is priceless.”

“I would like to thank you SO much for your awesome presentation today. I felt a lot more prepared to apply for fellowships. As a first-generation doctoral student, seeking funding can be overwhelming due to the lack of exposure, but your workshop has definitely motivated me to apply for several fellowships.”
Professional Development

Students and postdocs across campus seek out our services because they are tailored to their needs.

- **74** Professional development workshops reaching 1,600 students
- **4.2** Average career development workshop rating by participants (out of a 5-point scale)
- **24%** Increase in confidence regarding career development skills, according to workshop participant surveys
- **990** Career advising appointments

Graduate students using our career development services come from the following colleges:

- **37%** LAS
- **27%** Engineering
- **11%** ACES
- **10%** Education
- **7%** Business
- **5%** FAA
- **4%** Other
- **11%** Other

#1 Career development is the number one area in which graduate students want more feedback, according to Graduate College AIDE surveys