Reflections from Dean Kulkarni

Dear graduate students,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration of Princeton University, I extend a heartfelt welcome to the 578 first-year graduate students and to all of the continuing students returning to campus. For many of you, the beginning of the academic year signifies a return to your labs, libraries, and professional networks. For others it is an introduction to a world of new ideas and endless possibilities.

This fall we welcome incoming students from all around the world. We recognize that our graduate community flourishes when it is shaped by the different viewpoints, backgrounds, and experiences of our diverse graduate student population. I’d like to recognize one student in particular, Yuri Boguinia, from Russia. Yuri has been awarded the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans, which provides significant funding for immigrants and children of immigrants to pursue graduate education at universities in the United States. Yuri will begin pursuing his doctoral degree in the Department of Music.

For all incoming students, I hope you will find that Princeton is a lively, engaging, and supportive community. From orientation to commencement, the Graduate School brings students, faculty, and staff together for a wide-range of activities that include academic programs, professional development workshops, guest lectures, performances, community events, and social gatherings. While you are here, I hope that you will become engaged in the graduate student community so that your Princeton experience is both personally and academically rewarding.

This month you will receive many important communications about relevant initiatives, programs, policies, and processes. I hope you will read these messages thoroughly and feel free to reach out to the staff in the Graduate School with any questions. You recently received information about the Academic Year Sign-In requirement from the Registrar Polly Griffin. All enrolled graduate students are required to complete this mandatory process in SCORE this month. If you have not already completed this process, please do so.

Over the summer months the Graduate School has undergone some transition. There were modest renovations to Clio Hall, home of the Graduate School, to accommodate an increase in staff members. We also said farewell to Karen Jackson-Weaver who served as associate dean for academic affairs and diversity and is starting a new endeavor at the Harvard Kennedy School. We thank Dean Jackson-Weaver for her contributions to the University over seven years and wish her continued success.

On behalf of the Graduate School, I wish you a rewarding and productive year!

Dean Sanjeev Kulkarni

Award Opportunity Through the Department of Energy

The Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) program is now accepting applications for 2014. Applications are due by 5 p.m. ET on Wednesday, September 24.

The SCGSR program supports supplemental awards to outstanding U.S. graduate students to conduct part of their graduate thesis research at a DOE national laboratory in collaboration with a DOE laboratory scientist for a period of 3 to 12 consecutive months—with the goal of preparing graduate students for scientific and technical careers critically important to the DOE Office of Science mission.

The SCGSR program is open to current Ph.D. students in qualified graduate programs at accredited U.S. academic institutions, who are conducting their graduate thesis research in targeted areas of importance to the DOE Office of Science. The research opportunity is expected to advance the graduate students’ overall doctoral thesis while providing access to the expertise, resources, and capabilities available at the DOE laboratories. The supplemental award provides for additional, incremental costs for living and travel expenses directly associated with conducting the SCGSR research project at the DOE host laboratory during the award period.

Detailed information about the program, including eligibility requirements and access to the online application system, can be found at: http://science.energy.gov/wdts/scgsr/.
September 2014

Graduate Student Government (GSG)

A Message from the Graduate Student Government (GSG)

The Graduate Student Government welcomes all new Princeton Graduate Students to campus, and invites everyone to attend our September Assembly Meeting this Wednesday, September 10, at 5:45 p.m. in Jadwin 102. As always, free pizza will be served. Our monthly Assembly meetings are a chance to discuss issues that impact the Graduate Student community and hear from campus administrators. This month we will be hosting Kim Jackson, director of transportation and parking services, who will talk about transportation on campus. The Graduate Student Government is responsible for advocating for graduate students, and some of our recent accomplishments are improved health coverage, housing policies, and social events on campus. Attending our monthly meetings and becoming involved with campus governance is the best way to make your voice heard! 

Fellowship Dates

Fulbright Application Essays Workshop II
Monday, September 15
4:30 p.m., Hargadon G001, Whitman College
Registration is required: https://writing.princeton.edu/signup/t/Fulbright.

Soros Fellowship for New Americans Information Session
Tuesday, September 30
4:30 p.m., McCosh Hall 60
For further information about the fellowship visit www.pdsoros.org.

Fulbright U.S. Student Program Campus Application Deadline
Tuesday, September 30

DAAD - German Academic Exchange Service
Campus Application Deadline: Thursday, October 23

For information about these and other external fellowships, please contact Assistant Dean Elaine Willey at ewilley@princeton.edu.

Did You Know?

Princeton Writing Program offers resources for writers in a broad range of technical fields through Writing in Science and Engineering. This fall, a new section of WR1501: Reading and Writing about the Scientific Literature will be offered. For more information visit, http://www.princeton.edu/writing/wse/graduate/.

Gatherings at the GC

“Ask Me Anything” with 5th Year Graduate Students
Wednesday, September 10
6:30-7:30 p.m., OGC Coffee House (Entryway 12)

As you launch your career as a graduate student at Princeton, you may have some questions about life as a graduate student, living in Princeton, or how to navigate the university and what resources are available to you. This is your opportunity to ask a panel of senior graduate students any and all questions you may have. Sign up to attend with Olivia at omartel@princeton.edu.

Diversity And Inclusion at Princeton
Monday, September 15
5:30-6:30 p.m., OGC Coffee House (Entryway 12)

As the academic year begins to take shape you may have questions about how to meld your various identities (racial, gender, socioeconomic, etc.) with that of being a Princetonian. This session will be your opportunity to ask questions and get advice about how to make sense of your multiple identities within the Princeton context and to hear about various student organizations and programming available to support the intersecting identities each of us has. Sign up to attend with Olivia at omartel@princeton.edu.

To see the full Gatherings at the GC calendar, visit http://gradschool.princeton.edu/sites/gradschool/files/images/Events at Grad College for Fall Semester 14-15.pdf.

Graduate Writing Days

Need a stress-free zone to get you back on track with writing projects? Do you want a space to write brimming with plenty of complimentary caffeine and snacks?

Whether it’s a dissertation chapter, conference paper, journal article, seminar presentation, book chapter, or grant application, Graduate Writing Days: Fall Edition is a great option for graduate student writers at all stages of study.

Graduate Writing Days Fall Edition meets Mondays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Campus Club from September 22-October 20 and November 3-December 1, and on Wednesdays from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Graduate College from September 24-October 22.

Sign up for as few or as many sessions as you would like but please stay for the entire three hours when you do attend.

Participants are provided:
- Space to suit your style (quiet zone or café atmosphere), and
- Tasty beverages and a generous spread of energizing treats.

Whether you need to jump start your writing routine, maintain momentum, or are simply interested in joining a community of graduate student writers, this flexible program provides you with the opportunity to increase your productivity.

Spaces are limited. RSVP with your choice of sessions now: http://doodle.com/i9vinhc9nyngfre7 for the Campus Club sessions and http://doodle.com/4723km8sa2npc57g for the Graduate College sessions.

Send your questions to Cagin Ararat at cararat@princeton.edu.

Graduate Writing Days is sponsored by the Graduate Student Government Events Board, the Graduate College House Committee Events Board, and the Graduate School.

Exchange Programs

The Graduate School partners with several international institutions to promote graduate student exchange in France, Germany, Japan and Italy. Study and research exchange is also available at Ivy-plus schools through the Exchange Scholar Program. For a complete list of exchange programs please visit http://gradschool.princeton.edu/academics/partnerships-exchanges-and-cross-registration/ or contact Assistant Dean Elaine Willey, ewilley@princeton.edu.

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