

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

April 27, 2014

Over the past several years, I have spent a lot of time on career development and career pathways for graduate students.

Last week, I was invited to speak at the U.S. News STEM Solutions national conference in Washington, DC. The theme was “Where Employers and Educators Meet,” and it was an energizing meeting that pulled in a diverse range of perspectives on strengthening STEM education in the U.S. that pulled in a diverse range of perspectives on strengthening STEM education in the U.S.

In the session on the rise of practical graduate education, I spoke about the efforts underway nationally and at Ohio State to prepare advanced degree holders to take on roles in the full range of employment sectors, not only faculty-researcher positions.

Here’s some of what we are doing at Ohio State:

We are encouraging faculty and graduate programs to develop more professionally oriented master’s programs, including professional science master’s programs. These are master’s programs with an explicit dual focus: specialized content knowledge *and* professional skills needed to succeed in work environments.

We are broadening what we mean by doctoral education at Ohio State to help make sure that our graduate programs address current opportunities and needs. There are many examples. Two that come immediately to mind address opportunities and challenges in doctoral level interdisciplinary research and training ([Environmental Sciences Network](#) and [Life Sciences Network](#)) and needs of employers for advanced training ([General Electric and College of Engineering master’s program](#)).

We are working on improving career services for graduate students at Ohio State, including support for exploring careers outside the academy. [Current resource summary](#). We are also part of a national research project on financial literacy for students, both graduate and undergraduate. [More](#)

All of this effort is supported by the national research projects on graduate student career pathways that I have been involved in. [More](#) The main takeaway from these projects is that people with advanced degrees are essential to the national and global workforces because they have the creativity and skills necessary to identify and solve complex problems, and create new knowledge.

These national projects show that employers want employers who have transferrable skills—communication, working in groups, and project management-- that make it possible for them to hit the ground running. I know that many graduate students acquire these skills through their graduate degree training, but we need to do a better job of helping you achieve the level and breadth of experience needed by employers to see how the activities you have been involved in

illustrate these areas. We also need to develop opportunities for graduate students to acquire these skills if they don't have opportunities in their program to do so.

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

April 20, 2014

On Thursday, April 17, I sent an email invitation all Ohio State graduate students to participate in an online survey about your financial circumstances. This survey is one of several data collection efforts associated with Ohio State's participation in the national [Enhancing Student Financial Education](#) project.

If you have not yet completed the survey, I encourage you to do so. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete, and we need to collect responses by midnight on May 1, 2014. This project has a special emphasis on addressing the needs of and understanding the financial circumstances of graduate students.

The study is being conducted by the Council of Graduate Schools, a non-profit organization based in Washington, DC, dedicated solely to the advancement of graduate education and research (www.cgsnet.org), with a grant from TIAA-CREF. Associate Dean Scott Herness and I recently gave a presentation at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools meeting about what we plan at Ohio State as part of this project. [Details](#)

Your participation in this survey is not required, but the more responses gathered in this survey, the better informed the outcome will be. Your responses will remain confidential and will be aggregated with responses from graduate students across the U.S. The findings will be available in 2015, and we anticipate many good recommendations will emerge that will be developed into best practices for universities to use to improve financial education for their graduate and undergraduate students.

I hope you will participate, and if you have any questions, please contact [Associate Dean Herness](#), who is coordinating our participation.

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

April 13, 2014

I'm delighted to announce the 10 winners of this year's Graduate Associate Teaching Award: Emily Arendt, History; Elizabeth Brewer, English; Heidi Brown, French and Italian; Heather Derry, Psychology; Lizabeth Goldstein, Psychology; Colleen Kennedy, English; Owen King, Philosophy; Justine Law, Geography; Jill Yavorsky, Sociology; and Philip Young, Chemistry and Biochemistry.

These are 10 extraordinary teachers, and I am inspired by their dedication to this very important role. They will be recognized by the university community on April 15 during the Graduate School's award reception.

We have many excellent teachers among the 3000 graduate students who serve as GTAs each year. I encourage you to nominate your colleagues and yourself when the GATA nomination period opens in August

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

March 16, 2014

Getting your tax filing right can be complicated for graduate students, but there is help. I encourage you to take advantage of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which is offering free tax preparation support to all Ohio State students on March 28, March 29, and April 4 in the Ohio Union. This is a national IRS program with trained volunteers who can address your specific circumstances. Read more: go.osu.edu/VITA.

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

February 20, 2014

I know that funding your research can be a challenge. I want to make sure that you know about the Graduate School's small grant program, Alumni Grants for Graduate Research and Scholarship.

The AGGRS program provides up to \$2,000 for research support, which is often critical for doctoral students in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. The program, however, is open to doctoral candidates and terminal master's degree students in any field as long as there is not any research support from their departments or advisors.

We run this program twice a year, and the spring semester application deadline is Monday, March 3.

Eligibility is based on financial need, but awards are made on merit. [More information](#).

If you have questions, please contact [Karen Mayer](#), 247-7300.

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

February 14, 2014

On Feb. 13, Paula Chambers, an Ohio State PhD alum in English and founder of the Versatile PhD, presented "You Are Versatile: Non-Academic Careers for PhDs."

The event generated tremendous interest and was full within 24 hours of being announced. We taped the event and will make it available to the campus community as soon as possible. It was an energetic and engaging session, and I'm glad that we are able to give you more information--and encouragement--about your career pathways.

Please explore the resources available through the Versatile PhD.

<https://access.gradsch.ohio-state.edu/vphd/vphd.aspx> Ohio State's institutional membership is funded by the Graduate School, and all Ohio State students, post-docs, faculty, and staff can use this service for free. You will need to log in with your name.#.

Finally, I want to acknowledge our partners in hosting Paula: Office of Student Life-Career Connection and Buckeye Careers, Office of Research, and Ohio Union Activities Board. All of these offices provide career resources, and I encourage you to explore what is available to you at Ohio State. [Career resources summary](#)

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

January 26, 2014

I often speak about what distinguishes graduate education. The three hallmarks that I always mention are creativity, solving problems, and making new knowledge. When you are busy with all of the activities that are part of being a graduate student though, you can lose sight of these foundational activities.

Attending research conferences can help you regain your focus.

Our annual [Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum](#) is one such event, and I encourage you to mark your calendar for Friday, Feb. 21, in the Ohio Union.

Graduate students from across our entire spectrum of graduate programs present their research at the Hayes Forum, which can lead to unexpected and fruitful connections and collaborations.

The Hayes Forum is co-sponsored by the Council of Graduate Students, Office of Research, and the Graduate School.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

January 19, 2014

Every December, I participate in the Council of Graduate Schools' annual meeting where the focus is on graduate education and research and the sharing of best practices. My takeaways from last December's meeting include the impact on affirmative action from the recent Supreme Court decision on *Fisher v. the University of Texas*, the national student financial literacy project that we are participating in, career pathways for graduate students, and the impact of global rankings on graduate student recruitment efforts. [More](#)

I was also pleased that one of our own Ohio State faculty members, Dr. Christian Kleinbub, associate professor of History of Art, was honored at the meeting with the 2013 Gustave O. Arlt Award in the Humanities. [More](#)

The Arlt Award is given annually to a young scholar-teacher who has written a book recognized as making an outstanding contribution to scholarship in the humanities. Christian is the award's 42nd recipient for his book *Vision and the Visionary in Raphael* (The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2011). His research offers new appreciation for the transformative affect Raphael had on Renaissance art. Christian showed us images of several often-overlooked details in some of these very well-known paintings, and the response of the audience – and my own – made it clear that his work has advanced knowledge in the field of Renaissance art.

I'm delighted that Christian is among our many distinguished graduate faculty members.

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

November 21, 2013

I recently returned from a visit to China and India with David Williams, dean of the College of Engineering, and William Brustein, vice provost for global strategies and international affairs. The purpose of this trip was to explore opportunities for more joint projects, to formalize the agreement for a new dual Ph.D. program between Ohio State and Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and to visit and sign an agreement with Aligarh Muslim University in India, the site of Ohio State's STEM education and research collaboration funded by an award from the Obama-Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative.

I was struck by the energy and forward-looking initiatives that we were exposed to throughout our trip. We visited ten multi-national and national companies and met with alumni of Ohio State graduate programs working abroad, all of which reinforced for me the many opportunities for Ohio State and Ohio State students.

Getting international experience is of increasing importance for American students, and perhaps especially graduate students. I encourage you to explore opportunities to learn more about ways that you can get this experience. Programs offered by the Office of International Affairs are a place to start, and I will forward announcements that come to my attention to you and all of our graduate programs. Following the Graduate School on Facebook and Twitter is a great way to get news of these opportunities quickly.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

November 6, 2013

I'm delighted to report that four Ohio State graduate students have been awarded Fulbright grants to conduct research abroad.

Three are PhD students in History: Austin Dean, John Douglas Johnson, and John Knight. The fourth graduate student is Michael Larson, MFA in English. [More](#)

Their success is part of an overall effort at Ohio State over the past several years to increase the numbers of undergraduate and graduate students and faculty who apply for these awards. This effort paid off recently with the [announcement](#) that Ohio State is being recognized as a top producer of Fulbright awardees.

Through our fellowship office, the Graduate School works with graduate students who are applying for Fulbright programs. We provide feedback for proposals, we convene a faculty review committee to interview prospective applicants, and we oversee the development of the final applications.

The [Fulbright Program](#), sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is the U.S. government's flagship international exchange program. It provides grants for students and scholars to study, teach or conduct research and exchange ideas in 155 countries.

I encourage all of you to consider the opportunities that are available to you through a Fulbright experience. International experience has long been a crucial part of graduate education and graduate research, and it will be increasingly more important in this globalized world.

The rankings of both scholars and students are the result of an increased emphasis at Ohio State on Fulbright opportunities. Over the last four years, the Graduate School, Undergraduate Fellowship Office and Office of International Affairs have collaborated to promote Fulbright opportunities through a [Fulbright Week at Ohio State](#) program.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

October 27, 2013

Getting your work in front of your peers and the larger scholarly community and presenting it effectively are essential parts of your graduate training. The Hayes Graduate Research Forum is one way for you to do that.

The Hayes Forum is cosponsored by the Graduate School, the Office of Research, and the Council of Graduate Students and will be held Feb. 21, 2014. Abstracts are due by Friday, Nov. 1, 2013.

Awards totaling more than \$15,000 are given to recognize the best presentations. For [more details](#)

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

October 20, 2013

If you are working on life science or environmental questions, I want to point you toward two networks that are designed to connect graduate students, faculty, and researchers working on these complex issues.

Ohio State has a wealth of research and other endeavors in the life sciences and the environment. The Life Sciences Network and Environmental Sciences Network are in place to help us realize the full potential of these activities.

The networks were established in 2011 following the Graduate School's recommendation that we coordinate and maximize Ohio State's strengths in these areas. In the past two years, Executive Directors Kathleen Boris-Lawrie (LSN) and Richard Moore (ESN) have made tremendous progress in fostering interdisciplinary research clusters, strengthening interdisciplinary graduate programs in these areas, and submitting research proposals.

Check out what's available, including event calendars and other [ESN](#) and [LSN](#) activities. Graduate students are welcome to get involved. Contact ESN Program Manager [Maureen Langlois](#), 292-5383, or LSN Program Manager [Jenna McGuire](#), 247-7683.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

October 13, 2013

I want you to know that I take graduate student health, including mental health, seriously. This was a main topic at my meeting recently with the graduate studies committee chairs in each graduate program. Micky Sharma, Psy.D., the director of Ohio State's Counseling and Consultation Service, gave us an extremely helpful overview of their services. Nearly everyone struggles from time to time in graduate school. As Dr. Sharma puts it, talking to a professional who is not in your life can help you gain a different perspective on your situation.

Visit ccs.osu.edu for more information or call 292-5766. We're also here to help. If you're not sure where to start, you are welcome to contact Assistant Dean Ann Salimbene (salimbene.1@osu.edu, 292-6031), who works with graduate programs, faculty, and graduate students to figure out how to get students the support they need.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

October 6, 2013

Next week is Mental Health Week at Ohio State, and I want you to know that I take graduate student health, including mental health, seriously.

This was a main topic at my meeting last week with the graduate studies committee chairs in each graduate program. Micky Sharma, Psy.D., the director of Ohio State's Counseling and Consultation Service, gave us an extremely helpful overview of their services.

Their counseling professionals understand the concerns of graduate students, including balancing academics, work, and personal life; ambiguity of role and status; funding and finances; graduate school culture, and career options after graduate school. Nearly everyone struggles from time to time in graduate school. As Dr. Sharma puts it, talking to a professional who is not in your life can help you gain a different perspective on your situation.

Visit ccs.osu.edu for more information or call 292-5766. We're also here to help. If you're not sure where to start, you are welcome to contact Assistant Dean Ann Salimbene (salimbene.1@osu.edu, 292-6031), who works with graduate programs, faculty, and graduate students to figure out how to get students the support they need.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

September 25, 2013

Graduate students play an extremely important part in Ohio State's teaching mission, and the Graduate Associate Teaching Award is one of the ways that we acknowledge their invaluable contributions.

The GATA award is Ohio State's highest recognition of the exceptional teaching provided by GTAs, and the nomination period runs through Nov. 1. Nominations can be made by anyone associated with the university. Self-nominations are also encouraged; the award committee does not know how a candidate was nominated.

The Graduate School sponsors this award, and 10 recipients are honored each year. To get a sense of how special these GTAs are, I encourage you to [read excerpts](#) from their application portfolios.

[GATA guidelines](#)

If you have questions, please contact Assistant Dean Kathleen Wallace, 247-7300

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

September 18, 2013

The graduate student-advisor relationship is one of the most important parts of a graduate degree experience. Whether you are a new or continuing graduate student, one of the most productive things you can do is to establish and maintain regular communications with your advisor.

Your relationship with your advisor can have a tremendous impact on how well you progress through your graduate program, how you develop professionally, and the career options you pursue.

Be proactive in developing this relationship.

Our [best practices guidelines](#) can help. Have a look.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

September 4, 2013

I have one main message about how graduate students should approach career development:

Start early and explore what is available.

Start by having regular conversations with your advisor, and take advantage of events and resources offered by your home graduate program and college.

There are other resources available to graduate students at Ohio State, and the Graduate School has put together a useful [summary](#) of them.

Have a look, and get started. [We are here to help.](#)

More [quick links](#) to information you need

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

August 25, 2013

I was delighted with the turnout and energy at the Graduate School's welcome program August 19. Over 1300 of you attended, and the talent and curiosity that you bring to Ohio State were evident from the moment we opened the doors.

If you were there, you heard me say that creativity, solving problems, and making new knowledge are the hallmarks of graduate education and of the people—like you—who pursue advanced degrees.

While you're at Ohio State, seek and take advantage of opportunities that come your way. Ashley Fenn, our graduate student speaker and Presidential Fellow, put it best: "The more you put into your graduate school experience, the more you'll get out of it."

Graduate School is here to help you get as much out of your experience as you can. We help all graduate students find the information and resources they need, and we help solve problems. Give us a call, stop by, or send us a note at any point.

Enjoy this great adventure that you are undertaking. You will make new friends who will also become lifelong colleagues. You will engage in work that will take hold of your imagination and will make a contribution. You will discover resources and opportunities that will take you on unexpected and fruitful paths.

[Graduate School brochure](#)

[Welcome agenda](#) and [Dean's remarks](#)

[Presentation by Duane Wegener](#), Professor, Department of Psychology

[Presentation by Ashley Fenn](#), Presidential Fellow and doctoral candidate, Neuroscience

[New student to-do list](#)

[Important deadlines](#)

[Graduate associate & fellow appointments, 2013-2014](#)

[Funding for graduate students](#)

[Career development for graduate students](#)

[Graduate associate benefits](#)

[Scarlet and Gray financial coaching](#)

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

August 18, 2013

Welcome to Ohio State and the new academic year!

Approximately 3,000 new graduate students will be starting their graduate careers at Ohio State this week.

If you are a new graduate student, please join me on Monday, August 19, for the Graduate School's annual welcome program and resource session in the Ohio Union. We will meet in the Grand Ballroom, and refreshments will be available starting at 8:45 a.m. The program starts at 9:30.

You're here for a graduate degree, and the Graduate School is here to help.

I encourage you to contact the Graduate School at any point during your graduate degree journey. While you are here, you will work most closely with your home graduate program. But since the Graduate School is the official college of record for all graduate students at Ohio State, you will interact with us for registration issues, graduate degree milestones like examinations, dissertations and theses, and graduation, and programs like Preparing Future Faculty.

I'm looking forward to meeting you and to helping you get off to a great start. The materials below will be distributed at the welcome. Please use them as a reference.

[Graduate School brochure](#)
[Welcome agenda](#) and [Dean's remarks](#)
[New student to-do list](#)
[Important deadlines](#)
[Graduate associate & fellow appointments, 2013-2014](#)
[Funding for graduate students](#)
[Career development for graduate students](#)
[Graduate associate benefits](#)
[Scarlet and Gray financial coaching](#)

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School July 14, 2013

I'm glad to report that we have been awarded a grant from the Council of Graduate Schools and TIAA-CREF to enhance the financial education of Ohio State graduate and undergraduate students. The Graduate School is collaborating with the Office of Student Life and its Scarlet and Gray Financial Program on this project, which is aimed at allowing students to play a more active and informed role in managing their personal finances.

Our program will be tailored to each student's financial needs and risk behavior and will include a continuum of online and in-person offerings. We are developing the resources needed to make it easy for students to tap into the information they require at key milestones, such as when they are making decisions about college or graduate school, need to manage debt and other financial situations, or make a transition into employment.

Student debt and personal finances are huge issues for undergraduate and graduate students alike. I fully expect that Ohio State's financial literacy program will become a best-practices model for other institutions.

I want to thank Scott Herness, associate dean in the Graduate School, and our partners in the Student Wellness Center in the Office of Student Life, Connie Boehm, director, and Jonathan Nutt, assistant director, for leading this effort.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 28, 2013

On Monday, April 15, I had the privilege of speaking about graduate education during a meeting of the presidents of AAU member universities, including President Gee.

The [Association of American Universities](#) is a nonprofit association of 60 U.S. two Canadian preeminent public and private research universities.

I reviewed the findings of the report *Pathways Through Graduate School and into Careers* (2012). I also summarized how we are addressing the needs and opportunities identified in that report at Ohio State.

Among the projects we are pursuing are: working with the graduate programs to track career outcomes of graduate students; supporting non-academic career interests; coordinating with career services across campus; building global partnerships and dual degree programs; developing new professional master's program, and connecting with corporate/industrial employers.

At the heart of all these activities is a very big question: What are our goals for doctoral education in the 21st century?

This is a question that Ohio State is uniquely positioned to answer and that we all must grapple with to be of the highest quality and relevance in the 21st century.

I look forward to continuing this conversation with you.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

April 21, 2013

Last Tuesday, I hosted the Graduate School's annual awards reception, honoring the many graduate students who demonstrate exemplary research, scholarship, and teaching over the past year. Over 450 graduate students were invited and listed in the program. Among the students that I highlighted individually were this year's Presidential Fellows and Graduate Associate Teaching Award winners. I was very impressed with the energy in the room and the breadth of activities that our graduate students engage and excel in.

The scope of the graduate side of Ohio State is immense, and the opportunities are virtually unlimited. As dean of the Graduate School and vice provost of graduate studies, it's my job to provide strategic leadership for graduate education at Ohio State and to foster quality in our graduate degree programs. This is a responsibility that I take seriously; it's also one that I enjoy immensely because everything we do is for you, our graduate students.

In my remarks at the reception, I focused on how this is a time of unprecedented change, challenges, and opportunities for those of us working in graduate education and for people with graduate degrees. One of the ways we're addressing this is by focusing on career development for Ohio State graduate students. We're basing our work on the findings from last year's national report *Pathways Through Graduate School and Into Careers*, which I chaired. We're working with Ohio State graduate programs on tracking all career outcomes for their students, and we're actively supporting non-academic career interests.

Specific Graduate School activities include:

- Alternative career forums for arts and humanities students
- Versatile PhD subscription
- Coordinating with career services offices, including Student Life and the Alumni Association
- Developing new professional partnerships and dual degree programs
- Connecting with corporate/industrial employers
- Building global partnerships and dual degree programs

In many ways, graduate education has never been more important. We know that we need people with advanced degrees to provide advanced knowledge and skills across the full range of human activities and to bring creativity to identifying problems and figuring out how to solve them.

I highlighted the Presidential Fellows and Graduate Associate Teaching Award winners during the reception, but these qualities are shared by all graduate students. I want you to know that I look forward to hearing more your achievements and how you bring your talents and skills to bear in the careers that you will pursue.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 14, 2013

Congratulations to the 10 winners of this year's [Graduate Associate Teaching Award](#)! These teachers are among the best at Ohio State, and it has been an energizing two weeks as I went from classroom to classroom to make the surprise announcements.

Please join me in recognizing: Amanda Matousek, Spanish and Portuguese; Marissa Nesbit, Art Education; Chelsea Phillips, Theatre; Katherine Thompson, Statistics; Christopher Worth, Linguistics; Jennifer Michaels, English; Justin Schupp, Sociology; Katherine DeLuca, English; Sarah Lang, Human Development and Family Science; and Suhaan Mehta, English.
<http://www.gradsch.ohio-state.edu/graduate-associate-teaching-award.html>

We will honor these exceptional teachers during the Graduate School's awards reception on Monday. I know that we have many excellent teachers among the 3000 of you who serve as GTAs each year, and I want to encourage all of you to nominate your colleagues and yourself when the GATA nomination period opens in August.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

March 24, 2013

I will be meeting all day on March 25 with Ohio employers, university educators, and policy makers about how we can strengthen pathways for Ohio graduate and undergraduate students into careers.

I am truly excited about this event because it is a foundational step in getting Ohio universities and employers working together to meet Ohio's needs for a highly educated, skilled, and creative workforce. And, as you know, graduate students have the talent, training, and drive to meet those needs, and I am looking forward to sharing reports with you from the meeting as well as definitive outcomes.

The Graduate School is co-sponsoring this meeting with Battelle and partners Case Western Reserve University, the Business-Higher Education Forum, and the Council of Graduate Schools.

The focus is on addressing how undergraduate and graduate students move into careers that rely heavily upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). However, as you know, many of the top-level topics—business and education partnerships, what do employers expect of graduate degree holders, how are graduate schools and employers work together on optimal pathways through grad school and into careers—pertain to all fields.

President Gee is attending as part of a panel over lunch, and in the afternoon, I am chairing the session on graduate education. This session includes two panels of industry leaders, students, and educators and focuses on expectations that employers have of graduate degree holders, the knowledge that graduate student have (or don't) of career pathways, and how universities and employers can work together to support the preparation of a highly skilled workforce, especially in Ohio. I want to point you to the [Council of Graduate Schools' 2012 career pathways report](#) that led us to create this event. I chaired the commission that wrote this report, and it provides important information about where we are and where we need to go.

I know from talking with many of you that you are very interested in career pathways and how to prepare yourself for careers both within and outside academia. I am very much interested in your comments and suggestions about your experiences and the career development resources available to you at Ohio State. Links to many of those resources are to the right.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School March 17, 2013

I am pleased to recognize Ohio State's graduate programs that were listed in the top 10 last week by *U.S. News and World Report*. The USNWR profiles provide useful information and resources for potential graduate applicants, and more details are available here <http://www.osu.edu/news/newsitem3645>

In the Graduate School, we pay attention to many indicators of a graduate program's quality. This is as much art as it is science. Our graduate faculty identify the goals and foci for the graduate programs, keeping in mind the requirements of a particular discipline or interdisciplinary approach, the expertise of the faculty, and research and career opportunities in both the academic and non-academic environments.

In my view, outcomes—the research that is produced and shared and the careers that our graduates follow—are the best indicators of a graduate program's quality.

Look for that information, and encourage prospective graduate students to look for it when they are considering their options. And, once you have earned your graduate degree from Ohio State, share information about your career pathways with your graduate program. We understand and value the full range of career options you may follow, and I know that your graduate degree is an essential part of the creativity and knowledge that you will bring to all your endeavors.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School March 10, 2013

I am pleased to recognize Ohio State's graduate programs that were listed in the top 10 last week by *U.S. News and World Report*. The USNWR profiles provide useful information and resources for potential graduate applicants, and more details are available here <http://www.osu.edu/news/newsitem3645>

In the Graduate School, we pay attention to many indicators of a graduate program's quality. This is as much art as it is science. Our graduate faculty identify the goals and foci for the graduate programs, keeping in mind the requirements of a particular discipline or interdisciplinary approach, the expertise of the faculty, and research and career opportunities in both the academic and non-academic environments.

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Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School March 3, 2013

If you are a graduate student in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics, I want to encourage you to consider participating in the National Science Foundation's "Innovation in Graduate Education Challenge."

This program focuses on graduate students and their ideas for improving STEM graduate education. The NSF is looking for ideas that have the potential to improve graduate education and professional development for graduate students. Winners will receive prizes between \$1K and \$3K.

Your ideas can be directed toward students, faculty, departments, institutions, professional societies, and/or federal agencies. Winning ideas will be shared widely. Submission deadline is April 15. More information www.nsf.gov/gradchallenge/

Improving graduate education and graduate training is at the heart of all the Graduate School's activities and especially our larger projects over the past several years. Several of those projects are listed to the right. Hearing from graduate students is an essential part of this process. Do consider participating in the NSF project. If you're not in a STEM field, I also welcome your ideas. Please feel free to do so here or via email.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School January 27, 2013

It's easy to get caught up in all the important activities involved in pursuing a graduate degree--courses, research, exams, publications, and presentations. You might find yourself focusing on these activities rather than your larger goal: the career (or careers) that will be the outcome of your graduate study.

Your graduate activities should support that larger goal, not be ends in and of themselves.

While it's not possible to plan all aspects of your future career with certainty, it is possible for you to be deliberate in exploring and preparing for this next step.

Many of you will pursue faculty careers. Others will pursue research careers; still others will follow the professional career paths indicated by their graduate training. Many of you will forge new career pathways by applying your skills and interests to careers outside of the academy.

It's never too early to start talking with your advisor and other mentors about your interests, career goals, and what you need to do to achieve them. There are many resources available to you in your graduate programs, in the Graduate School, and at Ohio State to help you figure out what you need to do and when.

We've created a short [summary of the resources](#) available to you at Ohio State. I encourage you to review it and start developing a plan. Meet with your advisor to talk about faculty and research careers. Make an appointment with a consultant in [Career Connection](#) to explore your interests and options. Join the confidential, on-line community available to you through [the Versatile Ph.D.](#) where the focus is on alternative careers, or careers outside of the academy.

I am personally committed to making sure that employers know about the tremendous value that graduate degree holders bring to any job and any employment sector, and not just academia. This is part of work that I've been involved in nationally and internationally over the past year and a half. I encourage you to read [the reports on career pathways for graduate students](#) that I've been part of.

On a more immediate basis, I want you to know that the Graduate School is here to help steer you toward helpful resources and to developing a plan for your own career pathways. If you're not sure where to start, give us a call.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School January 20, 2013

Financing a graduate degree is a serious undertaking, as is managing debt. This is one of the major challenges facing students, families, and colleges and universities in the U.S. today.

I am well-aware of the financial challenges faced by some of our graduate students, and I'm glad to announce that I will be working on a national project focused on these issues.

The Council of Graduate Schools recently received a grant from TIAA-CREF, which provides retirement services and financial advice for nonprofit employees, especially those in academic, research, medical, and cultural fields. TIAA-CREF is supporting a research project on graduate and undergraduate student debt and financial literacy, and I will be serving on the advisory committee.

The project is designed to spark university collaborations to hone students' financial skills at a time when public funding is decreasing and student debt is rising. Colleges and universities will compete for funding to design programs that prepare students to play an active role in managing their personal finances and making informed decisions about saving, spending and borrowing.

As part of the advisory committee, I will help identify student financial education trends and needs as well as what data the project should collect. The committee will also help CGS establish the criteria for selection of the 15 collaborating universities.

I am looking forward to this work because it has real implications for our current and future graduate students and their ability to pursue a graduate degree and career pathways that draw upon that degree. If you have observations or suggestions for me as I participate in this project, please let me know. I will also share with you any resources as they come to my attention.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate

Message from the dean of the Graduate School January 13, 2013

It's never too early to think about the career paths you might follow after earning your master's or Ph.D. degree from Ohio State.

This is a topic of national and international importance in the graduate community. Last week, one of Ohio State's own graduate faculty, Angela Brintlinger, wrote a [column](#) for the *Chronicle of Higher Education* on this topic.

Angela is an associate professor of Slavic & East European Languages and Cultures, and she spent the last year as a faculty fellow in the Graduate School working with me on this issue. Her column encapsulates much of what we're doing around career development and pathways for graduate students.

Angela makes an interesting point when she writes that we should be talking about *outcomes* rather than *placements* when we talk about which careers our graduates pursue after they graduate.

I encourage you to read Angela's contribution to this important topic and to share your thoughts on the Chronicle site or here on my blog. I am active in these discussions nationally and at Ohio State, and I am eager to hear from you.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School January 6, 2013

Welcome back! I hope you are refreshed by your holiday break and were able to spend time with friends and family.

I want to share a few observations with you now that we're starting Ohio State's first "spring" semester. This semester is long, and it runs through the winter months until the end of April.

The start of each semester requires a lot from graduate students, and I want to remind you to pace yourself. Many of you are busy fulfilling your responsibilities as fellows, GTAs, GRAs, or GAAs. Research and writing activities also require your attention. Many of you have families. All of you have degree requirements and program expectations that you need to satisfy. All of this requires focus, time management, and planning.

At the same time, with so many activities, it's extremely important that you take care of yourself. Take advantage of the [resources](#) on campus that support your needs. Get in some [exercise](#), take in a [recital](#), explore [Columbus](#), and get [outside](#) and enjoy the snow. The [Counseling and Consultation Service](#) is also available to you to help address concerns that may be keeping you from being at your best. Taking care of yourself and your needs will help your overall well-being and productivity.

If you can't find what you need, please let us know and we'll help. Best wishes for a healthy and productive spring semester.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School
www.gradsch.osu.edu
<http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School November 11, 2012

Our second alternative career event is Thursday, Nov. 29. To help with our planning, [RSVPs are requested](#).

Here are a few important updates:

We've scheduled three sessions in the morning for you to meet and talk with Ohio State alumni now pursuing non-academic work. These topic-driven morning sessions will be lead by our alumni. These sessions will run concurrently from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m in the Ohio Union.

1. Taylor Wallace, PhD in Food Science: "Networking to the Top: Utilizing Professional Organizations"
2. Adriana Golumbeanu, PhD in French: "Advancing through Change: Making Job Changes Work for You"
3. David Young, PhD in History: "Making Your Own Way: Grantwriting, Presentations, and Bringing History to the Public"

Dr. Rebecca Bryant's keynote presentation "Career Planning in an Absence of Information" and alumni panel are set for 3-5 p.m. in the US Bank Conference Theater, Ohio Union. Come early to chat; refreshments will be available.

I'm committed to making sure that graduate students have access to solid career advice and career development resources. I know that it's often difficult for graduate students to get the information they need. Here is a start -- a printable [list](#) of the resources that we have in the Graduate School and that are available around campus.

I also want to hear from you. Feel free to leave comments here or talk with me directly.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School October 17, 2012

Graduate students do great work, and we recognize the best of the best with the Graduate School's Presidential Fellowship.

Take a few minutes to read about what some of the most recent fellows are working on. [Presidential fellow profiles](#) This fellowship is the most prestigious award given by the Graduate School, and it provides each fellow with one year of full-time support so his or her dissertation can be completed.

While you cannot apply directly for a Presidential Fellowship, I certainly encourage you to talk with your graduate studies committee chair and advisor about the nomination process. [More information](#)

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School October 14, 2012

Some of the best teaching at Ohio State happens in classrooms and labs led by Graduate Teaching Associates (GTAs).

The Graduate School recognizes this exceptional teaching with the Graduate Associate Teaching Award. We are accepting nominations now, and I want to encourage you to nominate your colleagues.

I also encourage you to nominate yourself. The selection committee will never know how a GTA was nominated. The nomination deadline is November 15, 2012.

This award is in its 41st year and is Ohio State's highest recognition of the great teaching provided by GTAs. Award winners receive \$1,500 and are recognized at the annual Graduate School awards reception.

Please help recognize the great work being done every day by GTAs at Ohio State. [To nominate.](#)

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Graduate School at 247-7300 or mayer.113@osu.edu.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School



Message from the Dean of the Graduate School September 30, 2012

If you've thought about pursuing a career other than a faculty career after getting your PhD, be sure to attend the Graduate School's second Alternative Career Day on Thursday, Nov. 29.

This event is part of the Graduate School's current efforts regarding career preparation and pathways for graduate students. Our efforts stem from the recommendations made in the national report [Pathways Through Graduate School and into Careers](#). I chaired the commission that created the report, which was released last spring.

If you're interested in exploring alternative careers or simply want to keep your options open, I invite you to attend this event on Nov. 29, U.S. Bank Theatre in the Ohio Union, 3-5 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Rebecca Bryant, director of career services in the Graduate College at the University of Illinois, and Ph.D. in musicology. There will also be a panel of Ohio State Ph.D. alums who will share their experiences. [RSVPs are requested](#), and please watch for more information.

In the meantime, I encourage you to take advantage of other career explorations available to you. Talk with your advisor and other faculty members. Explore the resources and panel discussions on [The Versatile PhD](#), which the Graduate School's subscribes to on behalf of Ohio State students, faculty, and staff.

You are also welcome to meet with career development professionals in [Career Connection](#), which is located in the Younkin Success Center.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School September 23, 2012

A quick word about collaboration:

Make sure you understand what your advisor and faculty teaching your courses mean when they expect or allow you to collaborate on assignments or exams.

The Graduate School has been involved in several recent cases involving graduate students and alleged unauthorized collaboration. Such cases can lead to serious ramifications, including findings of academic and research misconduct.

You can do a lot to make sure that you are following your instructor's expectations for course work and your advisor's expectations for your research.

The key is communication.

Make sure that you understand when collaboration is required, allowed, or not allowed. Realize that the expectations may change from assignment to assignment or even within parts of an assigned activity. Read the course syllabus carefully, and ask questions if you are unclear about the expectations.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School



Message from the Dean of the Graduate School September 16, 2012

The Hayes Graduate Research Forum is one way that we highlight the high quality research being conducted by graduate students at Ohio State. The abstract submission deadline is Friday, Nov. 30. Awards totaling more than \$15,000 are given to recognize the best presentations.

The Hayes Research Forum is an annual event cosponsored by the Graduate School, the Office of Research, and the Council of Graduate Students. This year's Forum is Friday, March 1, at the Ohio Union. For more details, go to <http://go.osu.edu/Hayes>

We'll also send updates and reminders about the Hayes Research Forum. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School September 2, 2012

A lot goes on at Ohio State, and sometimes it's tricky to find out about events and opportunities that would interest you as a graduate student.

We use Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OhioStateGraduateSchool> and Twitter <http://twitter.com/OSUGradSchool> to get this kind of information to graduate students, graduate faculty, and the graduate programs as soon as possible.

For instance, when we get notified about a national graduate student funding opportunity, we will post it there.

Please follow us for important events, funding opportunities, deadlines, and updates.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School

August 23, 2012

One of the most productive things you can do in these first days of the semester, whether you're a new or returning graduate student, is to establish and maintain regular communications with your advisor.

Your relationship with your advisor can have a tremendous impact on how well you progress through your graduate program, how you develop professionally, and the career options you pursue.

Graduate advising is one of the most important activities that occur in a graduate program, and there is much that you can do to get the most from this partnership. Review our best practices guidelines for graduate advising <http://www.go.osu.edu/GradAdvisingBestPractices> and use them. We worked on these guidelines in collaboration with the Council of Graduate Students last year, and this topic is one of the Graduate School's focus areas for this year.

Be proactive in developing this relationship. Your experience as a graduate student will be stronger if you do.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School August 16, 2012

Welcome, and welcome back!

This week, approximately 2,800 new graduate students will start their graduate degree programs. If you're one of these new students, please join us for the [Graduate School Welcome](#) on Monday, August 20, starting with refreshments outside University Hall at 9:15 a.m. You'll get information about graduate study at Ohio State and about resources available to all graduate students. Staff from the Graduate School staff and other offices will be available to help answer your questions.

As a graduate student, you interact with the Graduate School during milestones in your degree programs such as examinations and as you prepare your theses or dissertations. The Graduate School also provides programs, workshops, and information about opportunities for graduate students in any degree program. [More](#) Please watch for announcements in OSUWeekly, and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

We are here to help when you have questions or encounter a troubling situation along the way. It's often easier to solve problems early. Please contact any [Graduate School staff](#) member, and we'll help you figure out a way forward.

I look forward to meeting you.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School June 3, 2012

I am just back from a 24-hour meeting with the deans from all of the graduate schools in the CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation, which represents the Big10 universities plus the University of Chicago). This group meets every year to share best practices and to discuss areas of common concern. This year, we met at Michigan State, and graduate student organization leaders joined us for the first time. Vijay Gadapally and Allen Cochran, immediate-past and current president of the Council of Graduate Students, represented Ohio State at this meeting.

I was delighted with the sense of shared partnership that developed. The graduate students had their own sessions and joined the deans for others. Their report was very instructive, and I noted that several of the issues that are of concern to graduate students in other Big 10 universities are ones that CGS took up and worked with me on this year, specifically graduate student advising. This is a critical part of graduate education, and we have worked with CGS and graduate faculty on our Graduate Council to prepare best practices. These will be shared with the graduate community over the summer.

We are fortunate to have such a dedicated group of graduate students working with us at Ohio State. I want you to know that I value the perspective that CGS brings. Being part of CGS is one way to have an impact on graduate education; I also want to encourage you to contact me directly at any point if you want to ask questions or share concerns.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 27, 2012

Because of the shortened session this summer, the university has made a decision to lower the number of required credits for the following two groups of graduate students: post-candidacy doctoral students who are enrolling summer session and master's students who will graduate summer 2012 and [are taking research credit hours only](#).

There are a lot of moving pieces with the change to semesters, and we are doing everything we can to help make this transition as smooth as possible. Please read the detailed announcement and then contact your graduate program for clarification about your specific circumstances. If you still have questions, please contact [Ann Salimbene](#), [Tim Watson](#), or [Shari Breckenridge](#) in the Graduate School.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>



Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 20, 2012

Approximately every two years, the Graduate School collaborates with the Office of Institutional Research to survey graduate and professional students about their experiences while at Ohio State. That survey is out now, and I encourage all of you to complete it. The survey covers academic, teaching, and research experiences. It also addresses services—including professional and career development services—that you may encounter while you are here.

We rely upon this information to make your experiences at Ohio State better. This year, I will be paying particular attention to your feedback about career services and professional development. This is in connection with the [national career pathways report](#) that came out last month.

You can access the survey by looking for either of two emails from me that you should have received over the past two weeks. If you have not received an email, please contact Sheila Craft-Morgan in the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, 292-1311 or <mailto:craft-morgan.1@osu.edu>. As always, you are welcome to contact me directly at <mailto:osmer.1@osu.edu> or via [my blog](#). I welcome your ideas.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 13, 2012

On Tuesday (5/8) evening, I had the pleasure of joining President Gee for a reception at his home to recognize the [Council of Graduate Students](#). In his remarks, President Gee complimented CGS President Vijay Gadepally and his team for building constructive relationships with Ohio State administrators and faculty, and he made it clear that he understands and appreciates how much graduate students contribute to Ohio State.

I am very impressed with Vijay, his leadership team, and the CGS delegates that I have worked with this year. I rely upon CGS to keep me up-to-date on the concerns and needs of graduate students. CGS also interacts regularly with Graduate School staff members, and our Graduate Council, which advises me on graduate policy. This year, CGS spearheaded a look at graduate student advising that has resulted in best practices guidelines that will be incorporated into the Graduate School Handbook. They also ran a fantastic Hayes Research Forum and awarded travel and career development grants to graduate students. I encourage you to look at what CGS has to offer and to consider taking an active role. You will be interacting with a talented, energetic group of students, and you'll learn much about the university and graduate education in the process.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Allen Cochran on his election as the next president of CGS. Allen's leadership for the Hayes Research Forum this year demonstrated his high abilities, and I am looking forward to working with him and the new CGS leadership team.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 6, 2012

The importance of graduate education keeps growing as the world becomes more complex. This recognition is at the heart of international collaborations that we are building at Ohio State.

We are currently putting the finishing touches on a joint program with the University of Sao Paulo. This program builds upon long-standing relationships between our faculty in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and faculty in USP's agricultural college. Graduate students participating in this program will spend one year or more as graduate students at the other university and will earn a Ph.D. in Plant Translational Sciences from Ohio State and a Ph.D. in International Plant Cell and Molecular Biology from USP.

The objective behind this collaboration is to nurture outstanding research scientists who can help create innovations that solve problems, such as biofuels and global warming, facing the world today. The strongest collaborations, like this one, begin between students and faculty, often on a one-to-one basis. Are there collaborations in your graduate program that we can build upon to create other international partnerships? I invite you to share them with me.

-- > Read more: <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-school-blog.html>

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 29, 2012

I'm interested in hearing from you about your expectations and preparations for your careers after graduate school. For a national perspective, I encourage you to read the [Pathways through Graduate School and Into Careers report](#) that was released last week. I welcome your candid comments about your experiences and the report on my blog where I've started [a conversation on this topic](#). You may also email me at <mailto:osmer.1@osu.edu>.

Career pathways for graduate students is an initiative that I am committed to, and your perspectives are a vital part of the Graduate School's activities moving forward. You and future students will be positively affected by your feedback. Please participate.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu
Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 22, 2012

This year, you have been receiving messages from me about career pathways for graduate students and about the commission I chaired on this topic. I am pleased to announce that the report was released last week during a legislative event in Washington, DC. The report, *Pathways through Graduate School and into Careers*, points out that by 2020, 2.6 million new or replacement jobs will require an advanced degree. This represents a tremendous opportunity for you, and for the universities, business, nonprofit and government sectors that will employ you.

Take time to look at this report and the coverage it has received in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Inside Higher Ed*. It is clear that we can do more at Ohio State to help prepare you for faculty and research careers and for careers outside the academy. We are working on this now, and I look forward to bringing the national effort to campus so that we can better demonstrate the value that graduate degree holders bring to any workplace. Read more: <http://go.osu.edu/careerpathwaysreport>

Finally, I also want to congratulate the winners of this year's Graduate Associate Teaching Award. These teachers are among the best at Ohio State, and it has been an energizing two weeks as I went from classroom to classroom to make the surprise announcements. Please join me in recognizing Jarrett Anderson, French and Italian; Leila Ben-Nasr, English; Lindsay Bernhagen, Comparative Studies; Bora Bosna, Mathematics; Sara Cline, Molecular Genetics; Jim Collier, Communication; Joshua Eckroth, Computer Science and Engineering; Casaundra Harbaugh, Psychology; Adam Stier, English; and Scott Stuckman, Environmental Science. Read more: gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-associate-teaching-award-winners-2012.html

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 15, 2012

Next week, I'll be in Washington, DC, for a legislative event to announce the results contained in the report Pathways through Graduate School and into Careers. I chaired the commission that produced the report, which was sponsored by the Council of Graduate Schools and the Educational Testing Service.

This event will help spotlight the tremendous value of graduate education, which I am sure you know is not widely understood. It will also highlight how we can best prepare graduate students for a range of possible careers while educating employers, policymakers, and the public about the talent that people with advanced degrees bring to every employment sector.

I look forward to sharing details about this report and actions that we will take at Ohio State. In the meantime, I encourage you to engage in conversations with your advisors, mentors, and other graduate students about your career aspirations. I also encourage you to visit [The Versatile Ph.D.](#) regularly. This free, online resource and community is dedicated to helping graduate degree holders explore career options.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 8, 2012

I want to draw your attention to a great resource on campus — the University Center for the Advancement of Teaching. UCAT offers a range of programming each quarter that is focused on teaching. This quarter's offerings are particularly rich, including a course design institute, using writing to enhance discussion, grading, preparing to teach in semesters, publishing teaching discoveries, among others.

If you are a graduate teaching associate, you will be able to put this information to use now. If your career plans include becoming a faculty member, attending UCAT workshops will help prepare you for that role. Even if you do not anticipate that you will be teaching in a traditional sense, the skills involved in teaching — setting goals and managing projects, motivating individuals and teams, and assessing outcomes —are ones that you can transfer to any employment situation.

I encourage you to take advantage of what UCAT and its staff members have to offer. UCAT workshops and programs are free. Read more: <http://ucat.osu.edu/>

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu
Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 1, 2012

Spring is an ideal time for you to meet with your advisor, review your progress this year, and plan your activities for next year, especially in light of our conversion to semesters this summer. Advising is a shared responsibility between graduate students and their faculty advisors.

I want you to know that the Graduate School considers advising to be an extremely important part of your graduate degree experience, and we want to make sure that this shared responsibility is being carried out effectively. I am working with the Council of Graduate Students and the Graduate Council to prepare advising best practices to share with Ohio State's graduate community. I hope that this effort will bring more attention to this important graduate activity.

I encourage you to be proactive about meeting and talking with your advisor. Regular communication about your progress is key to your success in your graduate program. Problems can usually be addressed through conversations between advisors and graduate students. If you cannot resolve the problem there, you should turn to your graduate studies committee chair for assistance. And, if you continue to have concerns, please contact the Graduate School so that we can help you move forward.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu
Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School March 11, 2012

I'm delighted to recognize Monali Chowdhury, doctoral candidate in psychology, who has been honored by the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools with an honorable mention for the MAGS Excellence in Teaching Award at the doctoral level. Monali is also a 2011 Graduate Associate Teaching Award winner at Ohio State.

Monali is a great example of the excellent graduate students and graduate teaching associates that we have here. She, like so many of you, is dedicated to her students and their learning. I am particularly impressed with Monali's commitment to helping her students make meaningful connections between their academic pursuits and the larger world in which they live and work.

[Read more >](#)

I am very proud of Monali and all of our GRAS. I want you to know that I support you.

Sincerely,

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School March 4, 2012

I want to give you a few brief observations about last week's Hayes Graduate Research Forum. More than 90 graduate students gave oral presentations, 45 made poster presentations, and attendees participated in a panel discussion on entrepreneurship while the faculty judges deliberated.

Congratulations to the winners for their [outstanding research presentations](#). I also want to congratulate the Council of Graduate Students and especially CGS Vice President Allen Cochran for their tireless work in carrying out the logistics for the Hayes Forum. The Graduate School and Office of Research co- sponsor the Hayes Forum with CGS, but CGS is the driving force that makes it happen. These graduate students do excellent work on your behalf.

The Hayes Research Forum showcases what is great about graduate education and graduate students at Ohio State. I encourage you to participate next year.

Sincerely,

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School February 26, 2012

I am delighted to announce that the Graduate School is celebrating its [100th year](#) as a distinct academic unit at Ohio State. We will highlight this significant milestone over the upcoming months with several activities, including a summit on graduate students and career pathways in May and special recognition of graduate students who complete their degrees during our centennial year.

Since the Graduate School's founding in 1911, more than 157,500 Ohio State graduate degrees have been awarded. To put this number in perspective, the Graduate School awarded just two PhDs and 52 master's degrees in its second year of existence. The growth from 1911 to now is extraordinary and helps demonstrate why Ohio State and Ohio State graduate alumni are known throughout the world. During this year, I am reaching out to these alumni to see how they have put their graduate degrees to use.

I am also eager to hear from you, our current graduate students. I invite you to participate in discussions about graduate activities at Ohio State that are taking place on [my blog](#). I also welcome you to contact me directly at <mailto:osmer.1@osu.edu> to share your perspective.

Sincerely,

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School February 19, 2012

Please join me, the graduate faculty, and your fellow graduate students on Friday (2/24) for the Hayes Graduate Research Forum, to be held in the Ohio Union starting at 8:30 a.m. You are welcome to drop in at any point during the day. This annual event recognizes the exemplary research conducted by Ohio State graduate students. Their research presentations are judged by Ohio State graduate faculty members, who will recognize the best presentations with nearly \$14,000 in awards.

The Hayes Research Forum is co-sponsored by the Council of Graduate Students, the Office of Research, and the Graduate School, and it is organized by the Council of Graduate Students. I look forward to seeing you on Friday, and if you have questions about the day's events, please contact [Allen Cochran](#), vice president of the Council of Graduate Students.

Sincerely,

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School February 12, 2012

If you're curious about research being conducted by fellow graduate students across Ohio State, find out by attending the Hayes Graduate Research Forum on Friday (2/24). This annual event will be held in the Ohio Union, starting at 8:30 a.m., and it is co-sponsored by the Graduate School, the Office of Research, and the Council of Graduate Students. The forum features concurrent oral presentation sessions, a poster session, and a plenary panel discussion on entrepreneurship that will be of interest to graduate students from any degree program.

The [Hayes Research Forum](#) showcases the exemplary research being conducted by graduate students at Ohio State. If you have questions about the day's events, please contact [Allen Cochran](#), vice president of the Council of Graduate Students.

Sincerely,

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School February 5, 2012

I know that many of you have questions about how graduate associate appointments and graduate degree requirements will change with Ohio State's conversion to semesters this summer. My staff in the Graduate School have been working diligently with the Office of Academic Affairs and our own Graduate Council on this process. One core principle is behind that effort: that we make sure that you are able to move through your graduate programs as smoothly as possible.

I encourage you to review the updated rules and procedures pertaining to your graduate degree program and graduate student appointments. These essential [documents](#), and especially the semester version of the [Graduate School Handbook](#), are available on the Graduate School website. Your home programs should also be providing information to you. Please start with these documents and talk with your home program. As always, the Graduate School is available to help. Contact us at 292-6031 if you still have questions.

Sincerely,

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School January 6, 2012

Most of you interact with the Graduate School when you are registering for courses, scheduling examinations, submitting dissertations and theses, and preparing for graduation. Those are essential student services, but they are not the sum of the Graduate School's activities.

The Graduate School also exists to provide leadership for new directions in graduate education at Ohio State and to ensure high quality degree programs. Along those lines, I want to share two key Graduate School initiatives for this year. First, we're ramping up activities surrounding the recently announced Environmental Sciences and Life Sciences networks, which are designed to support graduate students and faculty working in these interdisciplinary research areas. Second, we are actively investigating the full range of career pathways taken by graduate students. This is a Council of Graduate Schools/ETS project, which I am chairing. The results of this investigation will be announced during a legislative forum in Washington, DC, in April.

We are undertaking these projects on your behalf. We have three goals: to enhance the research and networking experiences that you have while in Ohio State graduate degree programs, to widen your understanding of the range of career options available to you once you have completed your degrees, and to work with outside constituencies (such as legislatures and employers) so that they understand the full social and economic value of people with master's and doctoral degrees.

You will be hearing more from me about these and other projects over the next several months, and I'd be delighted to hear your ideas as well. Feel free to contact me directly or via the Graduate School blog.

Sincerely,

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu
Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School December 4, 2011

I want to encourage you to participate in this year's Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum on Friday (2/24) in the Ohio Union. The Graduate School, Council of Graduate Students, and Office of Research so-sponsor this annual event, which is designed to showcase the excellent research conducted by Ohio State graduate students. All disciplines are invited, and there are significant prizes awarded for the best presentations.

To be considered, you must submit your abstract by Friday (12/16). I know this is a busy time of the quarter, and I hope you can make time to pursue this opportunity. Information and abstract submission is [available online](#). If you have questions, please contact [Allen Cochran](#), vice president, Council of Graduate Students. I look forward to seeing you on Friday (2/24) for the 26th annual Hayes Forum.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu
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Message from the dean of the Graduate School November 13, 2011

On Friday (11/4), I joined more than 600 graduate students to watch Jorge Cham's "The PHD Movie." The Ohio Union performance hall was packed, and the crowd overflowed into adjoining space. What made the evening even more memorable was that Jorge and two graduate student cast members joined us and answered questions after the movie.

Jorge's comics have been shared for years among graduate students (and faculty who get the humor). There was much to laugh about Friday night, but I also want to make sure that I highlight an underlying message in the film and one that was emphasized by the graduate students who were in it: Pursuing other interests is important for graduate students.

Taking time out from your research and doing other things that interest you will help you maintain perspective as you conduct your research and work toward your degree. It helps you exercise your creativity so that you come back to your research refreshed and able to address problems in new and unexpected ways. There is more to life than the lab, the archive, the library, and even your graduate program. While you are here, I encourage you to join groups on campus or in Central Ohio that share your interests. Take in some of the many events that are available to you for free or a reduced price. You can search for events and groups on the Ohio State website. You can also visit [student resources section](#) of the Graduate School website for a starting point.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

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Message from the dean of the Graduate School

November 6, 2011

I am pleased to announce the creation of two networks that will help you and Ohio State faculty pursue important projects in environmental and life sciences research and graduate education in ways that have not been possible in the past. The Environmental Sciences Network and the Life Sciences Networks will help draw together faculty, graduate students, and others from across our full range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary graduate programs. The networks will support your experience in your graduate program and will help you develop as researchers.

Much effort and commitment have been given to the development of the networks since the Graduate School's doctoral review in 2008. That review highlighted Ohio State's tremendous and unrealized potential in the environmental and life sciences. Since then, two faculty task forces and advisory groups have met with college deans to develop a plan to help faculty and graduate students work more effectively across colleges and increase Ohio State's visibility in environmental and life sciences. [More details >](#)

By network, we mean a structure of relationships based on common interests, where activities will be adaptable, and where flexibility is a core characteristic. We recently named two faculty members as the first executive directors to lead the networks: Richard Moore (ESN) and Kathleen Boris-Lawrie (LSN). They, the core deans, and faculty who affiliate with the networks all have responsibilities and roles to play in the on-going development and success of the networks. At the same time, we expect that graduate students will make important contributions to the networks and their success. Please take a few minutes to read about the networks, and please share your comments at <http://go.osu.edu/eslnetworks>. I'm eager to get your view.

Patrick S. Osmer
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Message from the dean of the Graduate School

October 30, 2011

At this time of the quarter, everyone needs a diversion. Take a break from your research, writing, teaching, and other responsibilities to join fellow graduate students for a screening of [The Ph.D. Movie](#) on Friday (11/4) at 7:30 p.m. in the Ohio Union. Jorge Cham created this movie, which is based on his graduate student comic strip [Piled Higher and Deeper](#). I can guarantee that we will find much that is familiar and worth laughing about. Jorge and members of his cast and crew will join us for a discussion after the screening. I look forward to see you there. [More details](#)

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

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Message from the dean of the Graduate School October 23, 2011

Last Friday, more than 200 graduate students and faculty joined me and Sebastian Knowles, associate dean, arts and humanities, for a presentation by Paula Chambers, the founder of The Versatile Ph.D. She was accompanied by a panel of Ohio State Ph.D.s who have successfully pursued careers outside the traditional faculty researcher roles. It was an energetic, energizing, and informative event, and we will make the recording available as soon as possible. Career pathways for graduate students is a priority for the Graduate School, and I encourage graduate students to join in the conversation. You can do so at <http://go.osu.edu/blogcareerpathways> or you can contact me directly at <mailto:osmer.1@osu.edu>.

Also, I want to give a plug for the campus screening of Jorge Cham's "The PHD Movie" on Friday (11/4) at 7:30 p.m. in the Ohio Union. We are co-sponsoring this screening with the [Ohio Union Activities Board's](#) grad/prof committee. Jorge is the creator of the graduate student comic strip [Piled Higher and Deeper](#), and I had the pleasure of seeing him present several years ago. Jorge was a research associate at Caltech from 2003-2005 and earned his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at Stanford. Having been a grad student at CalTech myself, I can very much identify with Jorge and his characters. And now, being the Graduate School dean, I can see why the comic strip is so popular across all the disciplines. [Have a look](#), and join us on Nov. 4. Jorge and members of his cast and crew (largely graduate students themselves) will be there. Details at www.gradsch.osu.edu

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School October 16, 2011

At the end of September, I participated in the Council of Graduate Schools' fifth annual global summit on graduate education. About 35 education leaders from 17 countries representing all continents took part in the meeting in Hong Kong, which was focused on career outcomes for graduate students, including tracking and building pathways. These are topics that I know are of great interest to many of you, and I want to share with you three of the main points that I took away from that meeting.

- Career paths for graduate students are a main topic in graduate education around the world.
- The global emphasis and investment in university education outside the U.S. is stunningly large and strongly correlated with the pace of economic development in countries.
- The U.S. cannot take for granted the world-leading position in research and graduate education that it has held since the end of World War II.

I'm glad to report that Ohio State is ahead of the curve on these fronts, and it's important that we hear from our graduate students. I'm eager to get your observations and suggestions. To learn more and participate in the discussion, go to [Graduate School Blog](#).

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

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Message from the dean of the Graduate School October 9, 2011

It is never too early to start investigating the range of career options available to you once you have earned your master's or Ph.D. degrees. I want to invite you to learn more at a presentation and panel discussion on alternative careers for graduate students on Friday (10/14) from 3-5:30 p.m. in the Wexner Film and Video Theatre. This event is co-sponsored by the Arts and Humanities and the Graduate School. Paula Chambers, founder and director of the [Versatile Ph.D.](#) will be presenting. Chambers is an alum in English from Ohio State, and she will be joined by several Ohio State Ph.D.s who are pursuing successful careers outside of the traditional faculty route. I will give opening remarks, and Associate Dean, Arts and Humanities, Sebastian Knowles will moderate the discussion. I look forward to me

Last week, I told you about the Council of Graduate School's (CGS) Commission on Pathways through Graduate Schools and into Careers. Since then, I travelled to the University of Hong Kong for the CGS global summit on career development for graduate students. It was a very interesting meeting, and it's clear that people world-wide are thinking about global needs in relationship to graduate education. Look for a posting soon about this meeting on my [blog](#).

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School website: www.gradsch.osu.edu

Graduate School blog: <http://go.osu.edu/GradSchoolblog>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School October 2, 2011

I'm pleased to report that the Council of Graduate Schools and ETS have convened a commission to study career pathways for graduate students. This new study dovetails with the discussions we have been having here at Ohio State about the future of doctoral education, new developments in professionally oriented master's programs, and the need for us to examine how and for what outcomes we train doctoral students.

I am chairing the Commission on Pathways through Graduate Schools and into Careers, which will report its findings and recommendations in late spring 2012. I look forward to reporting more about this effort in the months ahead. I am also eager to hear from graduate students about their experiences with exploring career possibilities in and outside the academy. Please share your thoughts in response to my [blog post](#) on this topic.

I also want to draw your attention to [The Versatile Ph.D.](#), an online resource for career exploration. The Graduate School recently purchased a subscription to this service, and I hope that you find it helpful. The service is confidential, and you will need to provide your Ohio State username and password to access the site. Finally, there are links to many career development resources on the Graduate School [website](#). I encourage you to explore what is available there and in your graduate programs.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School September 25, 2011

Last Monday, I welcomed more than 800 new graduate students to Ohio State during the Graduate School's annual Welcome and Resource Fair. The rain did nothing to dampen the energy, enthusiasm, and good humor in the Independence Hall auditorium as we went through the program. For those of you who were not able to attend, I wanted you to know about one strong theme that emerged from the remarks made by our speakers: Take advantage of all that Ohio State has to offer you while you are here.

Attend a lecture in a department that is not your own. Go to the Wexner Center and see the latest exhibit or movie series. Go to a football game. Take a walk around campus and go into buildings that are far afield from your home graduate program. See a dance performance. Attend symposia and conferences hosted by Ohio State.

The focus of my remarks was the role of the Graduate School in your graduate careers while you are at Ohio State. We are here to support you at every step of your degree program. We can help troubleshoot problems that may come up — from getting your registration figured out, to scheduling dissertation exams, to troubleshooting mentoring and advising situations. Please do not hesitate to contact any [Graduate School staff member](#) for advice, guidance, and help navigating your graduate career.

-- > Read more: www.gradsch.osu.edu/welcome-graduate-students.html

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 29, 2011

I want you to know that I am engaging the graduate community at Ohio State in a dialog about the highest degree we offer, the Ph.D., and the future of doctoral education at Ohio State. Last week, I sent each graduate faculty member a letter and link to my blog post about this topic. I want to invite you to participate in this conversation as well. <http://go.osu.edu/doctoraledosu>

In that post, I write that "we have many excellent opportunities for Ohio State to play a leading national role in doctoral education by defining and implementing ... new directions and approaches. The economic and political changes since 2008 (the year we assessed the doctoral programs across the university) have made it all the more important that we go beyond the normal, that we reexamine our historical practices and goals, and that we identify the important future directions for our different subjects. I sometimes hear that we academics just produce clones of ourselves. That, and the phrase 'that's the way we do it' are simply not going to work anymore."

Please read my post, and if you've ever wondered why your doctoral program is structured the way it is, or if you have ideas about what new directions we ought to be following, I encourage you to share your ideas. Hearing from you, the newest generation of scholars and researchers, is a critical part of this process. Later in this process, we are planning to host a face-to-face meeting for graduate students. I will send you information about that event when it is scheduled.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 22, 2011

The end of spring quarter is a busy time of the academic year, both in the number of master's and doctoral students finishing final requirements for their degrees and the number of receptions and awards ceremonies honoring these students.

The Graduate School's 39th annual awards reception is Monday (5/23) in the Thompson Library West Reading Room. During that time, the graduate community at Ohio State will honor 450 of your graduate student colleagues. Some of these students entered Ohio State on Graduate School fellowships. Others earned [Presidential Fellowships](#) to fund their final year of dissertation or MFA final project preparation. We will also recognize this year's [Graduate Associate Teaching Award](#) winners and recipients of our [Alumni Grants for Graduate Research and Scholarship](#).

I will extend my personal congratulations to these students on Monday, but I wanted to point all of you toward these fellowships, awards, and grant program possibilities. I know that it can be a challenge to find out about all the opportunities available to graduate students at Ohio State, and I want you to know that the Graduate School is committed to being a clearinghouse for getting that information to you. If you have ideas about how we can do better, I'd be pleased to hear them. Please forward your thoughts and comments to Assistant Dean Kathleen Wallace at <mailto:wallace.150@osu.edu>.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate
School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 15, 2011

Effective advising is an essential part of your success in your graduate program. When advising is most effective, it is because both parties involved — the graduate student and the faculty advisor — understand how to foster the advising relationship that they are engaged in.

A couple of years ago, the Graduate School worked with Ohio State's InterACT theatre group to develop a performance piece to help graduate students and faculty better understand their roles and responsibilities in advising. On Tuesday (5/17), the Council of Graduate Students will host a new performance of "Keys to a Successful Advisor/Advisee Relationship in Graduate School," and I encourage you to attend. This event is open to graduate students, faculty, and staff. You will be entertained while you learn key strategies for getting the most out of your advising relationship. President Gee will give the opening remarks and there will be a post-presentation discussion. More info: <http://cgs.osu.edu>

As the dean of the Graduate School, I see on a daily basis how critical the advising role is for graduate students. When problems arise, some graduate students feel that they do not have access to anyone who can help them figure out how to move forward. Typically, the first line of communication in such cases should be the faculty member who serves as your graduate studies committee chair. But the Graduate School can also help you figure out how to proceed. Don't let problems go on too long; they are more easily addressed early on. For assistance, please contact Assistant Dean Ann Salimbene, at salimbene.1@osu.edu.

I hope to see you on May 17.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 8, 2011

One of my favorite activities as dean of the Graduate School is making surprise visits to labs and classrooms around campus to announce the Graduate Associate Teaching Award winners. These graduate students are truly excellent teachers, and they are right up there with all of Ohio State's best teachers, including those on the faculty.

Our undergraduates are indeed fortunate to have these dedicated, energetic, and creative teachers guiding their learning and achievement. I want to offer my congratulations to Leigh Fine, Sociology; Monali Chowdhury, Psychology; Matt Foulds, History; Spencer Robinson, Slavic Languages; Elizabeth Riter, Civil Engineering; DJ Hovermale, Linguistics; Katherine Parker, English; and Melissa Doran, Spanish and Portuguese; Pamela Vincent, Human Development and Family Science; and Courtney Harris, Dance. Read more:

<http://go.osu.edu/GATA2011winners>

I want all of you who serve at GTAs (some 3,000 of you each year) to know that I appreciate your efforts. The GATA award is open to nominations by any student, faculty, or staff member. Self-nominations are welcome, and I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to recognize excellence in teaching. GATA information: <http://go.osu.edu/GATAinfo>

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School May 1, 2011

Spring quarter is the busiest quarter for most graduate students and graduate programs at Ohio State. We average 200 dissertation defenses each year during spring quarter alone, and the range of work is inspiring.

If you've ever wondered what your graduate student colleagues around campus are doing, have a look at the front page of the [Graduate School website](#). We post all upcoming dissertation defenses as a way of honoring each student's achievement and to showcase the newest research being conducted at Ohio State. I look forward to seeing your name and your research posted on that list when your time arrives.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 24, 2011

Sometimes, graduate students can feel isolated from the larger university community because of the demands of their research, teaching, and other activities, including job searches and family responsibilities. At such times, it can feel as though the goal — finishing a thesis or dissertation and completing a degree — is nowhere in sight. Taking advantage of what Ohio State offers to all students is one way to gain a wider view and to come back to your own work refreshed. I encourage all of you to take time to visit the Wexner Center for the Arts, attend a lecture in a field outside your own, attend a music or theatre performance, or simply get outside more often and explore the campus.

You may need more assistance, though, that you can muster on your own. Pursuing a graduate degree can be very stressful, and I want you to know that there are many resources and people on campus to help you succeed. Many of these, including topic-focused workshops and individual consultations, are available through [Counseling and Consultation Services](#). A link to CCS and other resources are compiled on the [Graduate School website](#). If you are having trouble figuring out how to approach your own situation, please contact Assistant Dean Ann Salimbene at <mailto:salimbene.1@osu.edu> or 292-6031.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 17, 2011

I'd like to share with you some of my recent activities to help support graduate education on a national level.

On April 5, I participated in the Council of Graduate Schools' legislative forum, which underscored the need to support graduate education and its role in maintaining and enhancing U.S. competitiveness. The legislative forum included policymakers, business leaders, and higher education, including several graduate deans. I gave concluding remarks and moderated the question and answer session.

The value of the forum was how it showed the strong partnership among graduate schools, federal support, and the private sector. We also talked about the impact of last year's [The Path Forward report](#), which called on the federal government, universities, and industry to work together to ensure that graduate education remains a viable option for a growing and increasingly more diverse body of students. In addition, I had a full afternoon of visits to the offices of Ohio's senators and representatives. I made these visits with Stacy Rastauskas, Ohio State's assistant vice president of federal relations in our Washington, D.C. office.

It was a remarkable time to be in Washington with so much attention being focused on the possibility of a government shutdown. It's clear that we have to be there and part of the mix if we are to make our case about the importance of graduate education. We're extremely fortunate to have the [Council of Graduate Schools](#) and Ohio State's federal relations team there to help lead in this advocacy effort.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School April 10, 2011

This month, I am visiting classrooms, research groups, and department meetings across campus to surprise the winners of this year's Graduate Associate Teaching Award. We will announce the winners to the entire campus community at the end of the month. Making these visits to honor these exceptional teachers is truly one of the highlights of the year for me. These graduate students are, as I say during each visit, among Ohio State's best teachers at any rank.

Many of you are supporting the university's teaching mission and pursuing your career development through appointments as graduate teaching associates. In a given year, approximately 3,000 graduate students serve in this capacity. Your contributions are significant, and I want you to know that I appreciate the work you do.

The [GATA](#) nomination period starts in early fall quarter, and self-nominations are encouraged. I also encourage you to take advantage of teaching-focused programming in your department and by other campus units, including the Center for the Advancement of Teaching. I would be delighted to walk into your classroom to make one of the announcements I'm making this month.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate
School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the dean of the Graduate School

March 20, 2011

One of the best parts of my job is participating in the university commencements that take place each quarter. During today's commencement at the Schottenstein Center, we recognize the 117 Ph.D. students and 329 master's degree students who finished their degree requirements this quarter.

This is what we're all about after all — helping great students pursue their interests, develop their talents, and go on to continue to have an impact in their fields and communities. This quarter's graduates span the full range of Ohio State master's and doctoral degrees, from Art Education to Food Science and Technology to Veterinary Biosciences.

Congratulations to today's graduates. And for all of you who are continuing to work toward your degrees, I hope that you, when your time arrives, will attend your own commencement ceremony. In the meantime, do take some time to rejuvenate during spring break.

Patrick S. Osmer

Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>



Message from the dean of the Graduate School

March 13, 2011

I've become aware of a few misconceptions about the continuous enrollment policy, so I want to take a few minutes to walk you through the main points. The policy applies to doctoral students in their post- candidacy period and only to students who were admitted to the Graduate School autumn quarter 2008 or after. It also applies to graduate students admitted prior to autumn quarter 2008 who have not enrolled for two years.

Post-candidacy doctoral students need to enroll for 3 credit hours to fulfill this requirement and be considered full-time. We adopted this continuous enrollment requirement to make sure that we account for faculty time and university resources used by doctoral students during the post-candidacy stage. We also know that it helps keep doctoral students on track for a timely completion of their degrees. Details about [continuous enrollment](#), including conditions for leaves of absence and non-enrollment consequences, are available on the [Graduate School website](#). I encourage you to read this information so that you are aware of your responsibilities. If you have any questions, please contact us at <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>.

Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate
School <http://go.osu.edu/GSstaff>; <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu>

Message from the Dean of the Graduate School

March 6, 2011

One of the Graduate School's functions is to help graduate students navigate their graduate degree experience while they are at Ohio State. The Graduate School collaborates with your graduate programs and other units and organizations to support your work and professional development. One such collaboration is the [Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum](#), which was held Friday (3/4) in the Ohio Union. This annual event is co-sponsored by the Council of Graduate Students, Office of Research, and the Graduate School. Mark your calendars now for next year's call for abstracts.

Through the [Graduate School blog](#), I am hosting another collaborative activity with the Ohio State graduate community -- conversations about the current and future state of graduate education. This is a new activity. The graduate faculty have already been invited to participate, and I invite you as well. I value your perspective as current students and as the newest generation of researchers, scholars, and practitioners. The current topic is about professionally oriented master's programs, and other posts are being planned. I look forward to hearing from you.

Patrick S. Osmer
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