

August 2020

Welcome (back) to Tulane! This is an extraordinary time in our history, and though the challenges are substantial, we look forward to working with you.

This year, we are welcoming almost 500 new PhD and master's degree students to the School of Liberal Arts, School of Science and Engineering, and Biomedical Sciences Program. Their orientation looked a little bit different this year as it was conducted through Canvas, but we believe that we were able to aggregate the resources of a traditional orientation in a format that works for our times. The information and guides from orientation form the basis of an expansion of OGPS's resources for all graduate students and postdocs within Canvas. We have created a Canvas course which you are all enrolled in that will give you access to those resources and another method for communicating with us. It includes guides, resources from other departments, and appointment calendars for OGPS staff members.

Tulane has created an extensive and thorough plan to mitigate the impact of CoVid on our college campuses and we are hopeful that it will lead to a successful and productive semester for all of our students, faculty, and staff. All of you who are returning to campus should have had your first CoVid tests and masks are being distributed to all. Tulane will continue to test the entire community throughout the semester, and work to make sure that all students are as safe as we can manage and that you experience as few interruptions to your studies and research as possible. Each of us will need to follow guidelines and protocols, as well as help others to do so, whether we are on or off campus.

OGPS remains committed to being available and accessible to all students, whether you are on campus or remote this semester. In addition to offering virtual workshops, Briana, Jennifer, and Lauren will all be available for appointments virtually. Jennifer will also have availability for scheduled in-person meetings. You can make appointments to meet with OGPS staff members through the OGPS Canvas page, which all SLA, SSE, and BMS graduate students and all postdoctoral fellows can access.

P.S. Please enjoy these classic back-to-school photos!



<u>Michael</u> <u>Cunningham</u>, Assoc. Provost for Graduate Studies and Research



<u>Jennifer</u> <u>O'Brien-Brown,</u> Program Manager



Briana Mohan, Senior Academic and Career Advisor



Lauren Lukkarila, Academic Development & Resource Specialist



<u>UPCOMING</u> <u>EVENTS</u>

Introduction to Citation Management Tools - Tues. Sept 1, 10 am

Citation management tools such as Zotero, RefWorks, EndNote and Mendeley can help you to store the citations you find during your research. They all make it incredibly easy to format a reference/works cited list. Which is best for you? This workshop will provide a brief overview of each tool so you can be aware of your options before deciding what tool is best for you. For more information and how to register, click here.

¡Salud! workshop series - Sept. 17, Oct. 15, and Nov. 12

Presented by Ginette Argüello, LMSW. This workshop series aims to build community and provide an empowering space for Latinx students to thrive at Tulane. Register <u>here</u>. A complete list of groups organized by CAPS is <u>here</u>.

Fall Semester Academic Calendar

The fall semester began earlier than usual this year which has moved many deadlines up. Additionally, due to the truncated nature of the Fall 2020 semester, there are designated makeup days in October if the university has to close for any reason Please check the updated <u>Academic</u> <u>Calendar</u> for more important dates in the fall semester.

IN MEMORIAM



Tulane Neuroscience PhD student Jamie Jondel Morford passed away on August 18, 2020 in New Orleans, Louisiana. She lived most of her life in Omaha, Nebraska, graduating from Grinnell College with a BS and then proceeding to graduate school at Tulane, where she had recently successfully defended her dissertation. She is survived by her fiancé David Shives, many loving aunts, uncles, and cousins, as well as numerous friends and colleagues. She loved animals and always had a number of cats living with her wherever she lived. In addition to being highly intelligent, she had an artistic side -- she was an accomplished viola player and poet. Taken from us too soon, she will be missed.

A memorial service for Jamie will be held in New Orleans tomorrow, August 27 at 2 pm. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

We urge all Tulane students, faculty, and staff members in need of assistance to contact our support services. Counseling is available to students 24/7 through The Line at 504-264-6074. Students may also contact Case Management 24/7 at 504-920-9900. Staff at CAPS, 504-314-2277 and Student Resources and Support Services, 504-314-2160 are available between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The Employee Assistance Program is available for faculty and staff seeking counseling or support. Information about EAP can be found <u>here.</u>

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Library Workshops this Fall

The libary will be offering workshops this fall across a number of subjects, including archives, data management, research skills, and networking and collaboration. Many of these workshops will be featured in our upcoming events, but we encourage you to take a look at the <u>full list</u>. All events will be conducted via Zoom and will require registration.

New Laptop Lending Program

Tulane Information Technology (IT) has released many new tools to support the academic success of our graduate students. With the support of USG and GAPSA, they recently launched a laptop lending program for all in person TU students. IT also expanded the availability of Microsoft Teams to graduate students and launched LabArchives, an enotebook for TU researchers. To learn more, please check out Module 4 of the new OGPS Canvas Page!

Beyond the Professoriate's 1st Academic Career Success Conference for Grad Students and Postdocs - Sept. 19 and 26

This conference is designed to teach graduate students proven strategies to help them advance in their academic career as a graduate student or postdoc during these uncertain times. Tickets start at just \$19. Learn more and register <u>here</u>.

GAPSA and You

In addition to your divisional student government bodies, the Biomedical Sciences Student Association (BMSSA) and the Graduate Studies Student Association (GSSA), the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GAPSA) represents your interests on campus. Arianne Sacramento, President of GAPSA, has provided an overview to show how the various organizations in graduate student government work together.

GAPSA is the unifying body of the graduate and professional divisions of Tulane University. GAPSA develops and furthers the scholastic, professional, social, and public service interests of all graduate and professional students by promoting an understanding amongst students, faculty, staff, and administrators. GAPSA also facilitates inter-division communication and coordinates activities with the Undergraduate Student Government (USG).

Every graduate and professional student at Tulane University is a member of GAPSA. The government of GAPSA consists of an Executive Council and an Assembly of Senators. Senators are representatives of GAPSA's nine constituent divisions.

Executive Council President - Arianne D. Sacramento (She/Her) MD/MBA/MPH Student

Executive Vice President - Jordan Fontheim (He/Him) MBA/MHA Student

Finance Vice President - Harrison (Harry) Fox (He/Him) MBA/MS in Business Analytics Student

Communications Vice President - Catherine Grimm (She/Her) JD Student

Uptown Vice President - Sarah Mellman (She/Her) PhD Student in Anthropology

Downtown Vice President - Oluwatomi (Tomi) Akingbola (He/Him) MD Student

GAPSA Assembly

The GAPSA Assembly members include 28 elected Senators from GAPSA's nine graduate and professional school divisions. Each division has at least one elected GAPSA Senator, who act as their respective division's liaison to GAPSA. Senators are also voting members and may make recommendations on all matters regarding concerns of graduate and professional students. Of note, the GAPSA Assembly meets at least three times a semester.

Student and Postdoc Highlights

This month, we're highlighting Angelle Bradford, the current president of the Biomedical Sciences Association. Angelle's research focuses on physiology and medicine; you can read about that and her volunteer work on our <u>student highlights page</u>.

If you are interested in submitting a story for this section (about yourself or a colleague), please use <u>this form</u>.

Career Resources

- <u>InterSect</u> Job Simulations is an online platform that allows PhD-level scientists and humanists, regardless of
 - professional stage, to explore future career options. Their goal is to provide true-to-life job simulation exercises.
- Informational Interview 2.0 Podcast features Duke University's <u>Melissa Bostrom discussing how career</u> <u>development and innovation are intertwined</u>.
- The <u>Carpe Careers column</u> in *Inside Higher Ed* is a weekly career advice column for PhDs and postdocs. A recent article, <u>"No Right or Wrong Next Step"</u> by Thi Nguyen and Daniel Olson-Bang is an encouraging, reassuring, and informative piece about embodying work that aligns with your values.
- Especially for those who are considering academic positions, <u>"Tales from the Academic Job Market"</u> is a very helpful entry on Dr. Christopher T. Smith's Reflections blog.
- The Council of Graduate Studies (CGS) just released a new report -- <u>Closing Gaps in our Knowledge of PhD</u> <u>Career Pathways: How Do Biological and Life Sciences</u> <u>PhD Holders Transition into the Workforce?</u>.

OPPORTUNITIES

Support for Postdocs to Attend the National Postdoctoral Association Conference

The NPA is pleased to offer multiple types of assistance to postdoctoral fellows who would like to attend their annual conference next spring (April 16-18, 2021) in Philadelphia. Postdocs can apply for <u>travel grants</u> and <u>childcare grants</u> to support their participation in the conference.

Webpage for Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Fellow Opportunities

OGPS is notified periodically of opportunities for Tulane graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. These can range from part time work-study jobs to assistantships, to full time employment opportunities after graduation. This month we have received information about a number of graduate assistant positions within Student Affairs and a role with TU Information technology as a Classroom Experience Assistant. Please check our <u>new webpage</u> frequently as we will try to update this page when we learn of new openings.

Learn More

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