

November 2020

Congratulations on completing a particularly arduous semester! Within OGPS, we are looking forward to a slower December, and one that will hopefully bring you an opportunity to rest, recharge, and reflect on the year that kept us on our toes.

In between semesters, however, you are still students and researchers, and your friends and family might have questions about the work you do, its impact in the world, and how it ties into current events. As our Three Minute Thesis competitors can attest, it is not always easy to condense your in-depth knowledge into a snappy elevator pitch that non-researchers will follow. Three Minute Thesis can provide an example of how you can convey your work, regardless of your field of study, as we saw in last week's sixth annual Tulane 3MT competition. We've included some tips below with examples from our competitors that can help you navigate those conversations this winter.

Before you start, make sure you understand and respect your audience as you find out their understanding of the background information. (*Do they know what ethnographic interviews are? Do they know zeolites? Do they understand how dangerous hepatitis C is?*) You should assume they want to learn about the topic, but that they have probably only seen the tip of the iceberg. From there, consider what the critical information is to have a conversation. (*It is important that they know the justifications of restrictions on high-skilled immigrants if you're going to argue against those restrictions. They need to know what photosynthesis is to explain how you artificially recreate it.*) Once the conversation gets going, start with a broad appeal that hooks your audience, then move deeper. Keep coming back to that hook for what the next steps are in the research process.



IMPORTANT DATES

Exit Testing for the End of Semester

The last day of classes is **Tues 11/24**. Whether you're traveling or not, here's important COVID testing center closing dates:

Fri 12/11 5pm - Graduate and professional student testing closes.

Fri 12/18 5pm - Campus Health, symptomatic testing and clinical services close.

Fri 12/18 - Tulane-operated isolation and quarantine space closes. Students needing assistance after this date will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Mon 1/4 - Tulane testing centers and Campus Health re-open.

The Downtown testing center will remain open during break for graduate and professional

don't be afraid to admit the limits of your research! Your audience may not know how the research process works or what the scope of a student or postdoc's knowledge is.

Any conversation you have about your research is an opportunity for you to connect others to our academic mission as well as to enhance your own mastery of your subject. Learning to describe the ins and outs of your research in a digestible way sharpens your own expertise, and your friends and family members' questions can highlight subjects you want to investigate. While your conversations over the winter break will probably be less structured than a 3MT competition, we hope that some of the strategies they used will be helpful to you!

Wishing you all a peaceful and restorative winter break,

The OGPS Staff and Fellows



Michael
Cunningham,
Assoc. Provost for
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and Research



Jennifer
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Program
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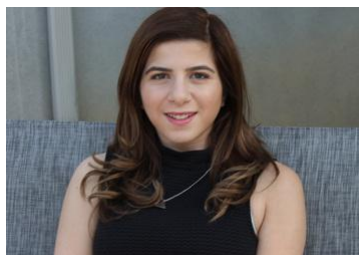
Briana Mohan,
Senior Academic
and Career
Advisor



Lauren
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Development &
Resource
Specialist

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meet Our New OGPS Fellows!



operation will be reduced 12/14.

If you are traveling during break, you **must** be tested before you return to campus. For more information, including an FAQ about winter testing, please see [this PDF](#).

Downtown Testing Center Winter Break Hours

Nov. 25, 27 and 28:

7am - 12pm

Nov. 30 - Dec. 13:

Mon./Wed. 7am - 5:30pm,
Tues./Thurs./Fri. 7am -
4pm, Sat. 7am - 12pm

Dec. 14 - Jan. 4:

Mon.-Fri. 7am - 3pm, Sat.
7am - 12pm

Downtown Testing will be closed Sundays, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Christmas eve and New Year's eve will be open 7am - 12pm

Airport Shuttles

Tulane Shuttles and Transportation will be offering various shuttles to the airport **Tues 11/24** and **Wed 11/25**. You must register on WaveSync and

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Jaclyn Maraldo

**Amanda
Reusch**

Ashley White

24 hours before departure
day and time.

Stay tuned for more
Shuttles and
Transportation information
for over the break!

OGPS is pleased to introduce our 2020-2021 Fellows! They will be working with OGPS on initiatives that they have identified as well as providing support to our work.

Jaclyn is a PhD candidate in the French and Italian department and is interested in increasing resource diversity for students looking at careers outside of academia. Amanda is a PhD student in the Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering department and plans to focus on communication and student concerns. Ashley is a Master's student studying Human Genetics and will focus on alumni relations for career development.

3MT Winners!



Jessica Liddell
Grand Prize Winner
City Culture, and Community



Austin Jones
People's Choice Winner
Epidemiology

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Sixth Annual Tulane 3MT Competition! The recording will be posted on the OGPS website shortly for those who were unable to watch live. Special thanks to all of our competitors, our judges, and Professor Ashley Nelson of the Freeman School of Business who helped coach our students.

Student and Postdoc Highlights

This month, we're highlighting 3MT winner Jessica Liddell, a PhD candidate in the City, Culture, and Community Program.

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reproductive justice, and making healthcare systems more equitable. For more of her work, check out our [student and postdocs highlights page](#).

If you are interested in submitting a story for this section (about yourself or a colleague), please use [this form](#).

Career Resources

- The [Carpe Careers column](#) in *Inside Higher Ed* is a weekly career advice column for PhDs and postdocs. Today's article by Bekah Layton "[Should you look for a window instead of a door?](#)" is a great resource for making career decisions.
 - Another recent Carpe Careers article by Natalie Lundsteen and Diane A. Safer, "[Turning transactional into transformational](#)" is the best description I have read about how to make the most of individual career advising appointments.
 - Speaking of individual career advising sessions, appointments will be available until Friday, December 18. The university will be closed for the following two weeks and appointments will resume the week of
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Course Evaluations Open through 11/29

Don't forget to complete your course evaluations! Your constructive feedback is critical in helping instructors and administrators learn about your experiences and how courses may be improved for the future.

Course evaluations can be accessed through your Canvas dashboard, Gibson online, or through the email notifications you received. Your responses are completely confidential and any results are always reported in the aggregate.

If you have any questions or need any assistance with the course evaluation process, please contact courseeval@tulane.edu.

Restaurants open for Thanksgiving

If you are staying in New Orleans for the Thanksgiving holiday, many local restaurants will be open to serve Thanksgiving dinner, either by dine in or take out. Please see [this link](#) for dine in and [this link](#) for take out. Whether you are celebrating or not, we hope you have a restful break before finals begin!

OPPORTUNITIES

Deadline for GSSA Travel Grants

The deadline for students in the School of Liberal Arts and School of Science and Engineering to apply for funding for conferences in Spring 2021 is December 15. The form is the same, found here on the [GSSA Travel Page](#), but some of the supporting documents and procedures have changed, so please talk to your representative if you plan to apply. Awards do not constitute permission to travel; if you will need to travel to a conference, you must apply for permission through the office of Academic Affairs.

BMSSA students have a rolling deadline for travel awards. For more information, please go to [their website](#).

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 the Tulane Changemaker Institute, which is now accepting applications. Please check our [new webpage](#) frequently as we will try to update this page when we learn of new openings.

[Learn More](#)

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