Biomedical Graduate Studies

June 2018

Dear MD-PhD students entering the full-time PhD portion of the program:

As the Administrative Director of Biomedical Graduate Studies (BGS), I would like to provide you with some important information as you prepare to enter the full time Graduate School phase of the MD-PhD program.

**BGS Convocation** will take place on **Monday, August 27th**. We will be providing more details throughout the summer, through e-mailings and our incoming students web page: [http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/infofornewstudents.shtml](http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/infofornewstudents.shtml). Activities include:

- Welcoming Remarks from the Deans and Other Representatives of the Participating Schools
- A Scientific Talk of Broad Interest by a BGS Faculty Member
- Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Lunch with Graduate Group Chairs, Coordinators, and Current Students
- Surviving Graduate School from a Student’s Perspective
- Panel Session with Representatives of Various Graduate Student Groups:
  - Biomedical Graduate Student Association (BGSA)
  - EE Just Biomedical Society
  - Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) – Penn Chapter
  - Penn Graduate Women in Science (PGWISE)
  - Lesbian, Trans, Bi, Gay, and Straight Allies (LTBGS+)
  - Penn Biotech Group-Healthcare Consulting
  - Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group
  - Penn Graduate Consulting Group
- Reception for New Students, Continuing Students, and Faculty

Note that additional BGS Orientation Activities will take place on **Thursday, August 23rd**. However, these activities are geared to students who are new to Penn, and you need not attend.

**Graduate Group Orientation Activities** typically take place on **Tuesday, August 28th**, but your graduate group will notify you about the specifics for your group, along with the schedule for academic advising. BGS follows the University academic calendar for the most part, with some exceptions. Classes officially start on **Tuesday, August 28th**, but some BGS classes will start later that week or the next week. Note that your registration for the fall semester will be handled by your Graduate Group Coordinator, following advising. If you have any questions about advising or registration, please contact your Coordinator. Contact info. for the Graduate Group Chairs and Coordinators appears on the sheet posted at [http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/contacts.shtml](http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/contacts.shtml)

We are looking forward to getting to know you!

Sincerely,

Judy Jackson
Administrative Director
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