



ISSUE NO. 7, OCTOBER 2023



GRADUATE STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Dean's Message

The arrival of students in the fall always feels bittersweet: every year I mourn that my summer's scholarly activities were insufficiently productive, but the presence of both new and returning students, along with the opportunity to teach and work with them is one of the best things about being a professor. In graduate programs this fall, we brought in 945 new master's and 200 new doctoral students who started their study at BYU. These students come from 43 different states within the US and from 51 countries. Please join me in welcoming all our new graduate students to the BYU campus.

My professional expertise is as an experimental scientist; obtaining, interpreting, understanding, and utilizing data are central to both my teaching and scholarship. In my time as dean of Graduate Studies, I have also tried to adopt a data-driven decision approach. We spent considerable time this summer collecting and organizing information and metrics that we felt could inform our ability to assess graduate program quality. During University Conference we shared this "data heat map" with deans, chairs, graduate program managers and coordinators.

We have made this information available through Tableau to deans, chairs, and others, and are working to revise and correct any issues you help us identify in the data. We plan to share information from the data heat map as part of the academic unit review process, and we anticipate using heat map information to inform future increases in Graduate Studies' allocations to programs (over prior year baseline levels).

We have already held several events for new graduate students this fall, including our Evening for New Graduate Students dinner, the New Graduate Student Reception, and International New Graduate Student Orientation. This fall I look forward to additional events, including lunches with graduate students from different colleges throughout the semester and our new graduate faculty training lunches through the Faculty Center, which will be held November 15 and 16.

Thanks for all you do in operating "selected graduate programs of real consequence" as directed by our BYU mission.

Best regards,

Adam T. Woolley
Dean of Graduate Studies



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Graduate Studies Highlights

Wesley P. Lloyd Award for Distinction in Graduate Education

The Wesley P. Lloyd Award for Distinction in Graduate Education is presented during University Conference to an exemplary member of the graduate faculty who:

- has a history of distinguished teaching and instruction in their discipline at the graduate level,
- significant research and/or creative work,
- superior mentoring and supervising of graduate studies,
- and exemplary service to the university, specifically in the creation, implementation, and/or supervision of graduate programs

2023 Wesley P. Lloyd Award Recipient



David H. Moore
J. Reuben Clark Law School

Upcoming Events



2023-24 Graduate Student Events

Thursday, October 19
Professional Development Seminar
11:00-12:00, Varsity Theater

Tuesday, November 14
Women's Forum
6:00-8:00, HC Assembly Hall

Friday, December 8
Graduate Student Society Christmas Party
5:00-7:00, WSC Garden Court

Thursday, January 18
Faith & Scholarship Symposium
6:00-8:00, 3220 WSC

Thursday, February 29
Professional Development Seminar
11:00-12:00, WSC Varsity Theater

Thursday, March 21
University Three Minute Thesis
11:00, WSC Varsity Theater

April 8-12
Graduate Student Appreciation Week

2023-24 Graduate Studies Events

Graduate Studies Workshops

[Wednesday, October 25 &
December 13, 11:00-12:00, 3380
WSC](#)

[February 14 & April 10, 10:00-
11:00, 3380 WSC](#)

For Graduate Coordinators &
Graduate Program Managers

Graduate Studies New Graduate Faculty Training

[Wednesday or Thursday,
Nov. 15 or 16
12 :00-1:00](#)

For New Graduate Faculty
*Watch for more information
from the Faculty Center*

Graduate Studies Summit

[Wednesday, June 12
8:30-2:00](#)

[Various Locations WSC](#)

For Graduate Coordinators &
Graduate Program Managers

Advisement

Graduate Student Evaluations

Departments are required to formally monitor each graduate student's progress twice during the academic year, at clearly designated times, and inform the student in writing of his or her status.

Because the Department of Education requires students to maintain satisfactory progress toward completing their degree in order to receive financial aid, students who receive an unsatisfactory rating **or who do not receive an evaluation will not be eligible to obtain financial aid.** Evaluations must be recorded on AIM screen ADV12. Failure to enter evaluations may result in the student being denied federal financial aid.



ADV17

More Than Just Graduate Student Data

Did you know that ADV17 (AIM Screen) has the capability to show this data?

- Faculty Committee Reports
- Committee Specific Positions

Graduate Program Managers have access to this information and can help provide it as needed.

More detailed information about accessing this data will be sent to Graduate Program Managers.



Data Notes

New Tableau Dashboards

If you haven't had an opportunity yet, be sure and check out our Graduate Studies Tableau Dashboards. Click on the QR codes to access the dashboards and a helpful orientation.



GRADUATE ANNUAL REPORT DATA



Application Rates & Demographics



GPA's & Test Scores



Feeder Location, Schools, & Programs



Matriculated Student Data



**Access your
graduate program's
dashboards here:**

tableau.byu.edu
data.byu.edu



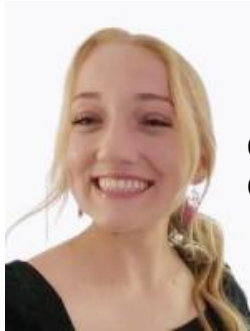
**View a 3-Minute
Tableau Orientation
Training here:**



Updates

New Graduate Studies Student Staff

We're excited to introduce you to our newest Graduate Studies student staff. You can find contact information for all our staff at <https://gradstudies.byu.edu/staff-directory>



Cambria Bybee
Office Specialist



Jerry Chiang
Social Media



Elisabeth Issertell
Office Specialist



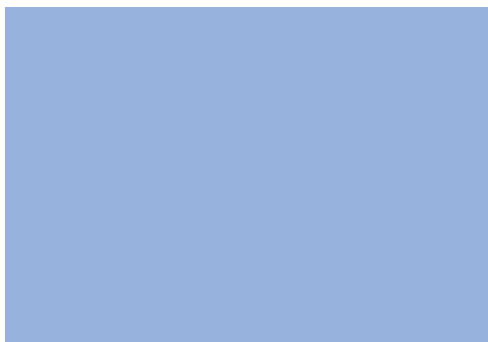
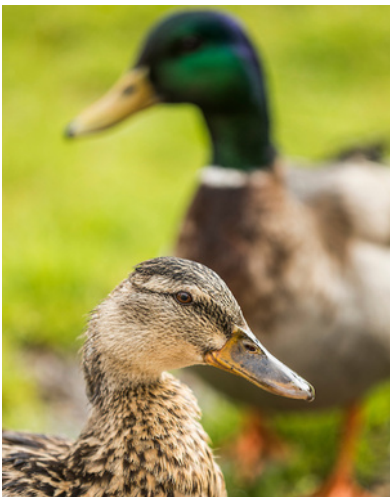
Kyler Lambert
Assistant
Office Manager



Avery Moore
Office Specialist



Viema Taito
International
Specialist



Tech Updates

New Graduate Application Requirement

In the past the University managed the endorsement and honor code requirement, but on August 30, 2023, that changed. Endorsements are now managed by the Ecclesiastical Clearance Office (ECO) at Church headquarters. This has relinquished some of the University's involvement in managing endorsements and as a result has limited some of the help that Graduate Studies can render.

Honor Code and Ecclesiastical Endorsement Requirements

Previously the honor code requirement was combined with the ecclesiastical endorsement component, so we only required the completion of the endorsement. Today, the endorsement and the honor code are two separate functions requiring that they each have their own verification methods. The university maintains and manages the honor code requirements. Graduate applicants are able to submit their graduate application without having the honor code and endorsement requirements completed, but the application will not progress in the system until they have been resolved. Applicants will see a red X in the application checklist letting them know that this needs to be settled before the application can be considered complete.

The following image depicts how the two qualifications appear in the application system and indicates the status. The red X indicates that the requirements have not been satisfied.



Checklist

Insert Requirement		
✓	05/17/2023	Transcript (Brigham Young University Hawaii)
✗		Ecclesiastical Endorsement
✓	01/31/2022	English Proficiency Requirement (E3PT, IELTS, TOEFL)
✓	10/04/2023	English Proficiency Test Below Minimum - WARNING
✗		Honor Code Agreement
✗		Recommendation (Carrie Oakey, Singalong)
✓	10/05/2023	Recommendation (Jed Dye, Millennium Falcon)
✓	10/05/2023	Recommendation (Mea Tron. Transformers)

Applicants cannot be considered for admission until the honor code and endorsement requirements have been completed.

We require ALL applicants this application round to submit an endorsement request.

Any applications that have been submitted after 8/30/2023 need an endorsement request. Applicants must have an APPLICANT level endorsement to be admitted. Applicants must select the first option on the endorse.byu.edu page "Apply to BYU (including FlexGE, ELC, and Graduate Studies)."

Welcome to the BYU Endorsement System

I need an ecclesiastical endorsement to:

Please select the option that best describes you.

- ☐ Apply to BYU (including FlexGE, ELC, and Graduate Studies).
- ☐ Complete my mission deferment AND enroll at BYU.
- ☐ Apply for graduation from BYU and am not currently enrolled at BYU.
- ☐ Continue enrollment at BYU.
- ☐ For another reason, not listed above.

Tech Updates Continued

Please note that an endorsement request is not the same as a NEW endorsement. An endorsement request can be immediate, and MAY or MAY NOT require a visit with the Bishop and/or the Stake President. The applicant will be instructed during the process as to what is needed. It's obvious however, that new applicants/non-members that have never submitted an endorsement will need to visit with their ecclesiastical leaders and complete the full process.

Students who are not members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints previously printed out a letter that had to be signed by a religious leader and then emailed to Graduate Studies. These applicants are still required to complete the "Ecclesiastical Endorsement Form for Individuals Who Are Not Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints" form with a bishop or religious leader. A bishop or religious leader then sends the form to the following email address: ces-endorsement@churchofjesuschrist.org. This address should only be shared with ecclesiastical leaders needing to send in the form and should not be shared with applicants or parents.

You may want to familiarize yourself with the language and process on our Graduate Studies website <https://gradstudies.byu.edu/about/honor-code-and-ecclesiastical-endorsement>. This is also a good page to send applicants that need help understanding the requirements and initiate the process.



Answering Applicant Questions

Now that the endorsement system has changed to the Church ECO entity, we do not have access to the same data or offer help in the same manner we have in the past. Graduate Studies can help answer some questions such as, has the applicant submitted the request and when. But, questions such as, "I have met with my bishop and want to know the status of my endorsement," now need to be directed to the bishop.

You can also refer them to this URL and number: 801-422-2847

<https://honorcode.byu.edu/contact-us>

Now that BYU no longer manages the endorsement system, we cannot help applicants as they work with priesthood leaders or the chaplain because we have no visibility into the two-interview process.



Graduate Student Events Recap

Evening for New Graduate Students

This year's Evening for New Graduate Students was held on Thursday, September 7th in the WSC Ballroom.

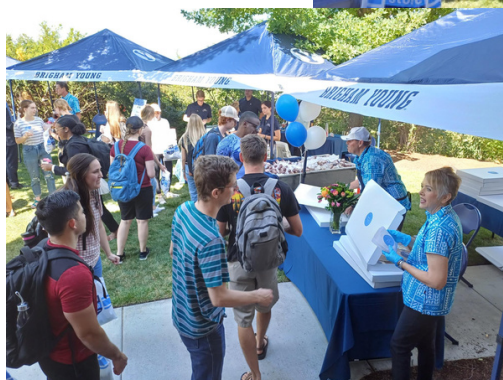
Incoming graduate students enjoyed a catered dinner while being welcomed by President Shane Reese. Dean Laura Padilla-Walker from Family, Home, and Social Sciences was the keynote speaker.

Five new graduate students were lucky enough to receive Professional Development Awards to use toward attending conferences or other activities that will strengthen their professional skills.

Welcome Reception

New graduate students were also invited to a welcome reception held on the lawn of the Former Presidents' Home on Thursday, September 14.

Students had the opportunity to interact with Graduate Studies Dean Adam Woolley, Dean of Students Sarah Westerberg, and representatives from the Office of Belonging, Research and Writing Center, University Accessibility Center, and Graduate Student Society.



Graduate Student Events Recap

Continued

Graduate Student Society Opening Social

All graduate students and their families were invited to a BBQ on Thursday, September 21st at the Harman Building field. Everyone enjoyed JDawgs, BYU brownies, meeting Cosmo, face painting, playing games, and having a great time together.



Graduate Student Thesis/Dissertation Bootcamp

Graduate students had the opportunity to attend a full day boot camp on Saturday, September 23, sponsored by the Research & Writing Center and Graduate Studies. Students were provided distraction-free time to write for the entire day, lots of motivation and support, writing guidance and help, workshops on reference management, and lunch and snacks.





Graduate Student Society

2023-2024 GSS College Delegates

In addition to the Graduate Student Society Presidency, GSS College Delegates are graduate students who serve as a point of contact for students in their respective colleges. Additionally, there is an international graduate student delegate and a belonging delegate.

2023-2024 Graduate Student Society Delegates



Aya Sadat
Belonging
From
Clinical Psychology PhD



Kjerstin Roberts
Business
Highland, UT
MBA



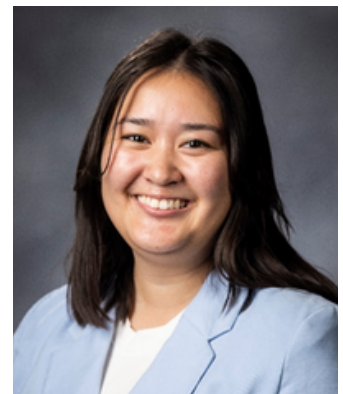
Naomi Wynn
Education
Orem, UT
Communication Disorders MS



Emily Blanchard
Engineering
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA
Civil Engineering MS



Alyssa Black
Family, Home, & Social Sciences
Dallas, TX
Social Work MS



Ashley Pun Eveson
Fine Arts & Communications
Portland, OR
Mass Communications MS

Graduate Student Society Delegates

Continued

2023-2024 Graduate Student Society Delegates



Lacey Hamilton
Humanities
Rexburg, ID
English MS



Shaur Humayun
International
Pakistan
Mechanical Engineering PhD



Jessica Craig
Law
Orem, UT
Juris Doctor



Carlos Moreno
Life Sciences
Ecuador & TX
Microbiology &
Molecular Biology PhD



Darryn Taylor
Physical & Mathematical Sciences
Washington, UT
Mathematics Education MS



Sterling Kerr
Delegate Lead
Salt Lake City, UT
Environmental Science &
Sustainability MS



Rian Naef
Nursing
Mesa, Washington
Nursing MS



Robert Magarrell
Religious Education
Canada
Chaplaincy MA



Graduate Studies Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Statement



BYU
Graduate
Studies

Former Presidents' Home
Provo, UT, 84602

801-422-5091

gradstudies@byu.edu

gradstudies.byu.edu

Graduate Studies seeks to nurture a community grounded in unity, mutual respect, and charity toward all. We strive to support graduate programs at Brigham Young University in the following ways:

1. We will develop policies and procedures that promote the recruitment, admission, retention, and support of all current and eligible prospective graduate students including students of color, women, and other underrepresented groups.
2. We strive to support an environment where multiple perspectives are shared, challenged, and valued for optimal learning so graduate students may become sensitive citizens and ambassadors, informed and aware of both diversity and culture, helping to make our BYU community and the broader communities in which they live more just, unified, and inclusive.
3. We will partner with BYU faculty, staff, and administration to foster an environment of inclusivity in all graduate programs where individuals of diverse backgrounds can succeed together in fulfilling BYU's aims and mission.
4. We will support graduate programs in mentoring and advancing graduate faculty of color, women graduate faculty, and graduate faculty from other underrepresented groups, encouraging diverse perspectives and contributions to enhance the graduate education experience.
5. Graduate Studies will annually assess for accountability by measuring outcomes from year to year regarding our stated aspirations and/or university guidelines.