New This Year: Graduate College Process Improvements
New This Year: GC Process Improvements

Alexis Thompson, Assistant Dean for Student Success
Derek Attig, Director of Career Development
Emily Wuchner, Thesis Coordinator
Matt Abbott, Academic Affairs Coordinator
GC Process Improvements

• Supporting Student Success
• New Career Development Opportunities
• Changes to the Thesis Process
• Changes to the Graduation Certification Process
GC Process Improvements

Student Success

• Combines Student Experience/Ombuds and Student Development

• Brings together range of services to help students succeed in graduate school & their careers

• Provides a holistic view of the graduate student experience through partnerships within the College and across campus
GC Process Improvements

Engaging & Supporting Students

- Orientation
- Planning & Goal Setting
- Wellness
- Academic Problem Solving & Coaching
- Professional Development
- Career Development
- Thesis
- Hooding Ceremony
GC Process Improvements

Setting Expectations

• What are the expectations for graduate education?
• How are these communicated to students?
• Consult with departments and faculty
  • Developing departmental policies
  • Annual academic progress reviews
  • Explore policies and options
  • Individual student situations
GC Process Improvements

Problem Solving

CONNECTING
Making referrals to appropriate resources, offices, and services

CONSULTING
Offering expertise, information, and assistance to prevent problems

COACHING
Advising on strategies for addressing problems and minimizing conflict

CONFLICT RESOLUTION
Providing guidance in resolving academic conflict
GC Process Improvements

New Career Development Opportunities
GC Process Improvements

- Students claim their accounts at handshake.Illinois.edu
- New career services platform for the University of Illinois
  - Job postings, career fairs, information sessions, workshops
  - Thousands of employers—more range than ever before
  - Any student can apply to any job
- How students schedule career advising appointments with the Graduate College
GC Process Improvements

Customized Career & Professional Development Workshop Requests

- New, easier process for requesting workshops:
  - [http://www.grad.illinois.edu/careers/customizedworkshops](http://www.grad.illinois.edu/careers/customizedworkshops)
- Offered to any group of 5+ students/postdocs
  - Proseminars, classes, research group meetings, student groups
  - Can be customized for particular audience
- Wide variety of topics available, including:
  - Exploring Broad Careers in [Your Field], Thinking Like a Search Committee, GradMAP, Job Search Basics, Talking About Your Research, and more
GC Process Improvements

New Event Type: Coffee & Careers

• Opportunity to learn about different careers in a less formal setting
• Guests: alumni, department/unit guests, local professionals
• If you have a guest speaker with a gap in their schedule, contact gradcareers@illinois.edu to see if Coffee & Careers might work
GC Process Improvements

Changes to the Thesis Process
FALL 2017
WORKSHOP SERIES

THESIS TOOLS

THE PATENT PROCESS & YOUR THESIS
Svetlana Sowers, Senior Technology Manager,
Office of Technology Management
Thursday, September 28, 1-2 p.m.
Cable Hall, room 304/308

MANAGING YOUR THESIS DATA
Heidi Imker, Director, Research Data Service
Wednesday, October 4, 1-2 p.m.
Cable Hall, room 304/308

THESIS FORMAT REVIEW
& DEPOSIT
Emily Wuchner, Thesis Coordinator,
Graduate College
Tuesday, November 7, 3:30-5 p.m.
Lincoln Hall, room 101C
Registration Required:
go.grad.illinois.edu/thesis_review

grad.illinois.edu/thesis/workshops
**Thesis Tip**

*Use Lynda Courses to Help You with Your Thesis*

Are you having difficulty writing papers or staying productive? Do you need help mastering Microsoft Word? You might consider taking some Lynda courses. There are a number of topics that relate to thesis work, including meeting deadlines, editing and proofreading, staying productive, and tips to enhance note-taking. There are even courses about Microsoft Word and other software products, which might help you with formatting issues that may arise. Lynda courses are free to all students, faculty, and staff. [Learn more](#).

**Thesis Tip**

*Reminder to Back Up Your Files*

Just a friendly reminder to back up all of your thesis files, including chapter drafts, tables, spreadsheets, data, pictures, notes, or any other materials you might have. One option you might consider is to save your files on U of I Box, a cloud-based storage service through which the University provides free, unlimited storage to students. Though replacing files on jump drives and in the cloud can be a tedious task, make sure to do so regularly so you don’t lose all of your hard work!
GC Process Improvements

Customized Workshops

• Introduction to the Thesis Process
• Thesis Format Review
• The Deposit Process

For details, email thesis@Illinois.edu
GC Process Improvements

Changes to the Graduation Certification Process

• Effective October 2017, GCP spreadsheets will no longer be the primary means for departments to certify students for degree conferral.

• Departmental requirements will be confirmed via the GCP Database website.

• https://www.grad.illinois.edu/gcp
GC Process Improvements
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## GC Process Improvements

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<thead>
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<th>App</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>✔️</td>
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**Thesis-Req Date**: 11/29/2014

**MS to PHD / Dup Day?**: ✔️
GC Process Improvements

Changes to the Graduation Certification Process

• Effective October 2017, the Template for Add Student to Graduation List will no longer be the means by which students are added to the degree list if they are unable to do so via Enterprise Self Service.

• Students will submit the Add/Remove From Degree List form, found on the Grad College website, to their department office.

• Departments will submit the form via the Secure Form Drop Off.

• Adding a student after the published deadline will still require a petition in addition to the Add/Remove Form.
GC Process Improvements

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**ADD/REMOVE FROM DEGREE LIST**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DEGREE Term:</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Year:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UIN:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Please Print: First and Last Name)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dept:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DEGREE NAME/MAJOR:</td>
<td></td>
<td>(For Example, MS: Animal Sciences)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please list any campus-approved minors/concentrations that should be conferred with this degree:

___

Student's Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

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**ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT USE ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM CODE:</th>
<th>QCP DEPT CODE:</th>
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Minors/Concentrations:

Degree Term: ___________________________

Comments:

___

Authorized Departmental Signatory: ___________________________ Date: ____________

Print Name: ___________________________
GC Process Improvements

Changes to the Graduation Certification Process

• Comments will be saved for the duration the semester. No more repeat entries.

• Comments will still be due at multiple points through the term, as listed on the Important Dates document in the GCP shared drive.

• The Graduate College will migrate comments that were submitted on the First Run GCP Spreadsheet from September to the new database.

• A final degree list spreadsheet will be provided in the GCP shared drive at end of the degree certification period for your records.
Questions?

Thank you for joining us today!