

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a red and green plaid sleeveless shirt and dark jeans, holds a large green plant with some brown, dried leaves. To her right, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a light blue checkered shirt and dark pants, holds a similar green plant. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall scene suggests a focus on agriculture or environmental science.

UC Davis Graduate Studies

*TRANSFORMATIVE GRADUATE EDUCATION
FOR A CHANGING WORLD*

A Message from the Vice Provost and Dean



At UC Davis, we aim to contribute to the health of the planet and the well-being of its inhabitants. Graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are engines of the research and scholarship necessary to achieve these goals. They create, discover and work tirelessly for the public good.

UC Davis Graduate Studies is committed to developing a wide variety of programs and initiatives that support the success of our graduate scholars. We are pioneers in rigorous interdisciplinary graduate education and nationally recognized for our innovative professional development programs. Our libraries, laboratories and lecture halls launch graduate students into careers in every sector as well as into entrepreneurial ventures.

The future of graduate education at UC Davis will be defined by Graduate Studies' ability to attract and support an ever-changing population of the brightest, most talented graduate and postdoctoral scholars. It is our vision to cultivate an inclusive, equitable learning environment for our students so that they are equipped to spearhead discoveries with global impact.

Our alumni, donors and friends are key to realizing this vision. Your generosity and commitment to sustaining our graduate community inspire us, and we invite your partnership in cultivating outstanding scholars. Together, we will ensure the success of UC Davis graduate students and postdoctoral scholars for generations to come.

Jean-Pierre Delplanque

Vice Provost and Dean, Graduate Studies



A Bold Vision

Graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are the heart of UC Davis' preeminence as a public research university. With fresh perspectives and visionary ideas, they help establish new directions in research and develop innovations that drive our state and national economies. Sharing their knowledge in the classroom, they translate UC Davis' research mission into a top-tier education for undergraduates by providing immediate access to our interdisciplinary research and entrepreneurial expertise. And **graduate students amplify UC Davis' impact at home and abroad** by becoming the researchers, policymakers, teachers, entrepreneurs and leaders who solve society's most urgent challenges, enrich our lives and guide us to a brighter future.

To hundreds of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars who launch their careers here annually, UC Davis Graduate Studies offers a rich variety of professional development services, financial resources and community-fostering initiatives, **supporting these scholars as they thrive and advance their research and creative scholarship.** But sustaining this level of excellence while

expanding opportunities to even more students requires greater support than the state of California provides.

With the partnership of visionary philanthropists who share our commitment to equitable access to a world-class education, we have an opportunity to expand and enhance the quality of graduate education at UC Davis at a moment when our world most needs forward-thinking solutions.

We invite you to join with Graduate Studies in pursuing a bold vision for the future of graduate education. We envision every graduate student and postdoctoral scholar being able to afford a world-class education, every future leader accessing a rich variety of research mentorship and professional development resources, and every future graduate student finding their home in an inclusive community of faculty, alumni and fellow scholars. Together, we will provide the means for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars to focus on putting their creative ideas and innovative research to work for the benefit of society.

The Opportunity

With the partnership of our alumni and friends, we are committed to cultivating the best learning experiences for graduate and postdoctoral scholars. Each opportunity detailed in the following pages is a powerful way for your gift to foster a forward-thinking, inclusive and collaborative learning environment where scholars' research and innovations can have transformative effects.

We invite you to join us in:

- 1 Establishing **sustainable sources of support** to recruit the best and brightest graduate students and give them the freedom to pursue creative, innovative research
- 2 Supporting professional development programs at the **GradPathways Institute** to prepare graduate students for a diverse range of careers that draw on their academic experiences
- 3 Naming spaces in the newly renovated **Graduate Center** to strengthen graduate community and expand interdisciplinary professional development programs
- 4 Investing in **pipeline programs** that increase equity of access to graduate education and **career opportunities**



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SUSTAINABLE SUPPORT TO AMPLIFY GRADUATE STUDENTS' IMPACT

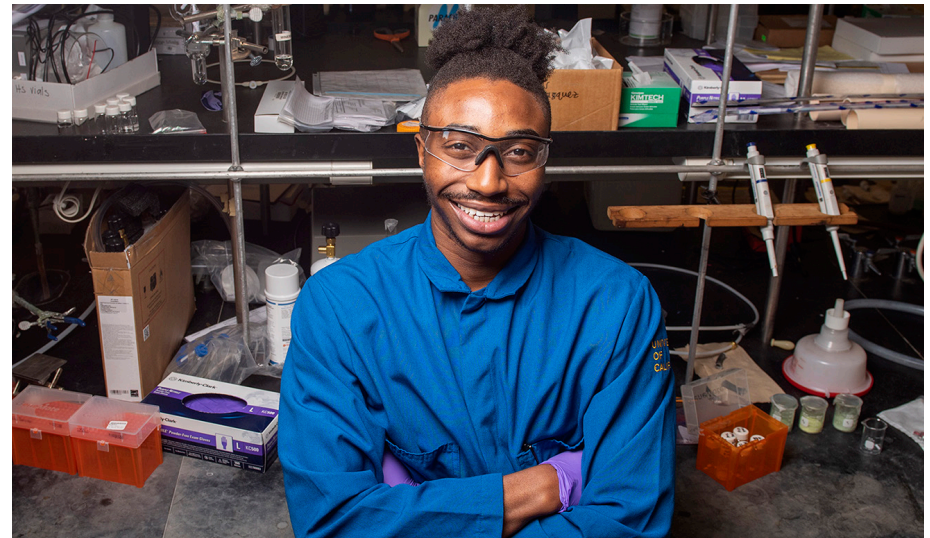
Robust fellowship support is critical to recruiting and retaining top graduate candidates from across California, the nation and the world.

Graduate students typically cover the costs of their education through a combination of stipends (a small sum in exchange for teaching or assisting with faculty research), loans and fellowships. Fellowships are a more attractive option that allow a graduate student to exclusively focus on their research and scholarship—amplifying the impact of that research and quickly putting new knowledge in the public's hands.

Fellowship support is also a vital tool in increasing social and economic mobility and reducing student debt. It opens doors to a graduate education for promising scholars from backgrounds that have been historically underrepresented in higher education. By removing financial barriers to graduate education, fellowships increase equity and access to the academic and professional opportunities that lead graduate students to success.

Because UC Davis is a comprehensive public research university located in the nation's most populous and diverse state, we have the unique capacity to make graduate education a possibility for a large sector of the population. With philanthropic support, we can create a future where graduate education is affordable to every qualified scholar.

Our ultimate goal is to provide every doctoral student admitted to UC Davis with a guarantee of multi-year support. **We have a vision to give every graduate student the gift of time—so they can focus on their cutting-edge research and on making a difference in the future.**



Supporting Graduate Scholars

- Endow multi-year distinguished fellowships to increase our competitiveness for top graduate candidates: *\$1.25 million*
- Fund graduate fellowships so that every student can afford a UC Davis education: *\$50,000 annually or \$1.6 million to endow*
- Fund awards for graduate students that recognize excellence in scholarship and teaching or support research and travel: *Up to \$5,000 annually or \$50,000 to endow*
- Fund grants for postdoctoral scholars that recognize excellence in research or support professional travel: *\$500 - \$5,000*

THE GRADPATHWAYS INSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Agile professional development for the future of work

Traditional graduate education has focused on preparing students for faculty positions, but today, the majority of Ph.D. recipients will enter jobs beyond the academy. In order to succeed in any career, graduate students and postdoctoral scholars must complement their academic training with strong communication, strategic planning and leadership skills. UC Davis graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are uniquely positioned to succeed in a variety of careers due to a breadth of professional development programs that complement each student's academic focus. The cornerstone of Graduate Studies' approach to graduate preparedness is the GradPathways Institute for Professional Development (GPI), a national leader in professional development.

By establishing experiential learning opportunities like Leaders for the Future and Professors for the Future, programs that offer graduate students and postdoctoral scholars immersive career-exploration experiences, and piloting a national launch of the humanities and social sciences career planning tool ImaginePhD, the GPI has demonstrated its expertise in preparing graduate students for their future careers.

Preparing Forward-Thinking Leaders and Problem Solvers

- Endow the GPI to integrate formal professional development resources into each graduate student and postdoctoral scholar's experience: *\$10 million*
- Endow interdisciplinary cohort-based programs such as Leaders for the Future and Professors for the Future and enable the GPI to develop new programs in response to industry needs: *\$100,000 annually or \$2.5 million to endow each program*
- Establish micro-credential programs in every discipline to help students navigate a path from classroom to career: *\$80,000 annually or \$2 million to endow*



Now, the GPI is poised to advance its leadership to the next level by developing new initiatives, leveraging partnerships with units across campus and making professional development accessible to every interested graduate student. These initiatives will expand existing professional development resources to reach all scholars, from master's student to postdoctoral scholar, and coordinate resources for faculty mentors to help them respond to the changing world of work. For example, the institute is developing a first-of-its-kind micro-credential curriculum that will help graduate students navigate opportunities in graduate school, access self-directed professional development resources and forge their own career paths.

We envision the GradPathways Institute for Professional Development shaping the national conversation around post-academic careers through a network of rigorous professional development resources that prepare graduate students to solve problems and drive change in any career they choose.



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THE GRADUATE CENTER AT HISTORIC WALKER HALL

A home for graduate community

Imagine a place that graduate students call their own—one that provides centralized access to the professional development, student services and community that are key to a thriving graduate career.

The Graduate Center is designed to promote interdisciplinary interactions, foster entrepreneurship and build community. Its highly visible location in the Davis campus core district pays respect to the value of graduate students and the instrumental role they play in strengthening the vibrancy of our UC Davis community.

The Graduate Center includes seminar rooms of various sizes, study spaces and a large multipurpose room for graduate student events. In addition, the Graduate Center serves as a hub for many graduate student services, providing access to professional development, diversity resources, counseling and advising.



A Space for Graduate Connections

Naming opportunities that will foster an inclusive community and facilitate graduate students' holistic development:

- The Graduate Center:
\$10 million
- Graduate Learning Commons:
\$1 million
- Professional Development Hub:
\$750,000
- Graduate Diversity Core:
\$500,000
- Study and conference spaces:
\$50,000 - \$750,000 each



EXPANDING EQUITY AND ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY IN GRADUATE EDUCATION

Graduate education plays a key role in increasing economic mobility, but access to opportunities in higher education are often denied to students from backgrounds that have been historically underrepresented. The rising costs of college and graduate school often amplify pervasive socioeconomic disparities. For example, graduate scholars from low- or middle-income households may not have the financial flexibility to attend major conferences in their fields, join professional development programs or select schools in high cost of living areas.

Applying to graduate school and navigating the support systems of higher education are complex processes that require mentorship and money. Prospective graduate students devote countless hours to preparing essays and scholarly work for their applications, and must pay the costs of application fees, standardized tests and travel. Without ample time, guidance or resources to navigate higher education systems, promising first-generation or underrepresented scholars may find that

the education they deserve remains out of reach.

Graduate Studies has a vision to smooth the way to graduate education for promising scholars from across California, the nation and the world. No circumstance, situation or background should stand in the way of the most qualified students achieving their promise through the world-class education UC Davis offers.

Graduate Studies has developed a series of graduate education pipeline-development programs thoughtfully designed to foster an inclusive, diverse community of scholars by removing barriers to graduate education. In the face of persistent inequalities in graduate education and academia, we have a critical mission to broaden the paths to economic opportunity for every graduate student. Supporting graduate school preparedness programs like the Guardian Professions Program, UC LEADS, Envision UC Davis and outreach initiatives will have a far-reaching impact in expanding these educational opportunities for the brightest students.



Investing in the Scholars of the Future

- Endow Guardian Professions Program student fellowships to remove the barriers between former foster youth and the education they deserve: *\$50,000 each*
- Fund Envision UC Davis participants' travel, accommodations and application fees: *\$5,000 annually or \$100,000 to endow the program*
- Fund UC LEADS stipends for promising STEM students: *\$8,000 annually or \$200,000 to endow the program*

UC Davis: Pioneers in Innovative Graduate Education

Solving the world's most pressing challenges will require our brightest minds to create new knowledge and translate research into actionable solutions that open new horizons on human and planetary resilience. Graduate education prepares tomorrow's leaders to creatively and collaboratively tackle these urgent issues.

UC Davis has pioneered a unique approach to graduate education, one that combines the research strengths of the West Coast's most comprehensive university with a highly collaborative interdisciplinary environment.

UC Davis graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in every field draw upon the expertise of our schools of medicine, nursing, education, law, management and veterinary medicine, as well as our signature innovation and entrepreneurship education.

More than half of UC Davis' 102 graduate and professional programs are organized as interdisciplinary graduate groups. Initially created to offer specialties in an interdepartmental subject, graduate

groups now convene students and faculty from many departments around common research topics and specifically designed curricula. In these groups, graduate students have the freedom to explore interests and engage in research across disciplinary boundaries.

Graduate groups embody the collaborative spirit of UC Davis, modeling exactly the kind of flexible education required to respond to multifaceted global grand challenges.

With career preparation and entrepreneurship training, many **graduate students and postdoctoral scholars go on to become entrepreneurs**, forming startups, applying for patents, or running small businesses based on their research and scholarship. Graduate students leverage their multidisciplinary research training and Graduate Studies' nationally recognized professional development resources into **an innovative education that makes a difference in the world.**



UC Davis: A Research Powerhouse With Global Impact

- 33 schools and programs ranked among the top 50 in the nation (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- #1 in the nation for agriculture, plant and animal science (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- #3 in the nation among top colleges doing the most for low-income students (*The New York Times* College Access Index)
- #5 in most international public universities in the U.S. (*Times Higher Education*)
- #13 in the world for environmental sciences (*QS World University Rankings*)
- #1 nationally for biological and biomedical Ph.D.s earned by underrepresented minorities
- Top-10 ranking among U.S. universities for research, social mobility and public service outcomes
- 1,783 academic and professional students graduated in spring 2019
- 8,387 academic and professional graduate students enrolled in 2019-20
- 1,000+ postdoctoral scholars annually employed across Davis, Sacramento, Bodega Bay and Lake Tahoe campuses





An Invitation

Philanthropy is vital to achieving our bold vision of interdisciplinary graduate education, comprehensive professional development, and a strong and supportive community. **With the support of alumni and friends, Graduate Studies is redefining graduate education to meet the needs of a changing world.**

We invite you to join Graduate Studies in cultivating an environment of inclusive excellence where all scholars have the resources they need to build the world they imagine.

For more information please contact:

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