



Biomedical Graduate Studies

June 2019

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 orientation activities, including activities organized by the individual graduate groups, take place during the weeks of August 19 and 26. We will be providing more details throughout the summer, through e-mailings and our incoming student web page: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/infofornewstudents.shtml>.

BGS Orientation Activities will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, August 21-22. Many of these activities are geared to students who are new to Penn, and you need not attend all of them. However, we encourage you to attend the sessions listed below, all of which will take place in the Gaulton Auditorium of BRB.

Wednesday, August 21

- Welcome to Grad School, including Mentor/Mentee Expectations and Professionalism (9-11am)

Thursday, August 22

- Responsible Conduct of Research (8-9am)
- Experimental Design (9am-noon)
- Lab Notebooks (1-4pm)
- Time Management (4-5pm)

BGS Convocation will take place on Monday, August 26. Activities include:

- Welcoming Remarks from the Deans and Other Representatives of the Participating Schools
- A Scientific Talk by Dr. John Wherry, Director, Penn Institute for Immunology and Chair, Department of Systems Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
- Career Development Overview
- 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
 - Penn SACNAS 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

Graduate Group Orientation Activities typically take place on Tuesday, August 27 but may also take place on other dates. 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 27, but some BGS classes will start later that week or the next week. Note that your graduate group coordinator will handle your registration for the fall semester, 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>

We look forward to getting to know you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judy Jackson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Judy Jackson
Administrative Director