Congratulations and welcome!

As Dean of the Graduate School, I am pleased to be among the first to welcome you to the University of Wisconsin–Madison. You have chosen to continue your education at one of the world's preeminent research institutions. Our faculty and staff stand ready to help you unleash your creativity and inquisitiveness.

I urge you to take full advantage of the graduate school experience. Attend New Graduate Student Welcome on August 29 to meet university leaders and fellow graduate students and learn about resources and strategies for success. Create an Individual Development Plan to discuss expectations and goals with your mentor(s). Seek communities of support and engage with others from diverse backgrounds, across all the disciplines.

Watch for email communications from the Graduate School. These will include information about what to do before and when you come to Madison.

I look forward to personally welcoming you to campus on August 29.

William J. Karpus  
Dean of the Graduate School  
Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
University of Wisconsin–Madison

Save the date!

The Graduate School invites all newly admitted graduate students to attend the Fall 2018 New Graduate Student Welcome.

Wednesday, August 29, 2018  
11:00 am - 4:30 pm CST
Don't miss this opportunity to mingle with Graduate School deans, staff and campus leaders, hear from a panel of current students about grad student life, learn about the many campus and community resources available to you, and meet other new graduate students from across campus. Keep an eye out for an official invitation and registration information the third week of July.

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**Check it out: New graduate student checklist**

The Graduate School has put together a checklist for all new graduate students, with all of the things that you should do before the start of the semester. This page also has checklists for international graduate students and graduate students with funding.

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**Get a jump start – create your IDP**

Before you begin your new graduate program, take some time to reflect on where you stand and where you want to go during graduate school - and beyond - in terms of skills, interests, and strengths.

The Individual Development Plan (IDP) is the perfect tool to help you think about and track these goals throughout your graduate career. Take some time to start your IDP and get a jump start on your personal and career development!

To help you in creating your IDP, use DiscoverPD to assess your skills and learn about on-campus as well as off-campus resources to improve them.

[Get started with an IDP >>](#)

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**Campus climate: Diversity & Inclusion**

UW–Madison is committed to creating a community where every person feels welcome, valued, and able to succeed. This is an ongoing and collaborative effort with initiatives across campus. The Campus Climate website tracks progress and reports on the outcomes of these initiatives. Read Graduate School Dean William Karpus' welcome message and statement on diversity [here](#).
Want to brush up on your English skills?

UW–Madison offers an English as a Second Language (ESL) program for international students hoping to improve their academic English, written and presentation skills, and adjust to U.S. culture.

The application deadline for the Fall 2018 session is July 15.

Find us on social media!

Join our social media community for up-to-date information about professional development opportunities, fellowship competition opportunities and deadlines, and trends in graduate education.