DISCOVERY & INNOVATION in GRADUATE EDUCATION
2017–2018 Officers

Ernest L. Brothers, President
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

David Berkowitz, President-Elect
University of Alabama in Huntsville

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Auburn University

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Auburn University

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University of Charleston, SC at the College of Charleston

2017–2018 Executive Committee

David Berkowitz (2018)
University of Alabama in Huntsville

Lori Mann Bruce (2019)
Mississippi State University

Jie Chen (2018)
James Madison University

George Crandell (2018)
Auburn University

Michael Cunningham (2019)
Tulane University

Jean Van Delinder (2020)
Oklahoma State University

Jack DeRochi (2020)
Winthrop University

Andrea Golato (2020)
Texas State University

Peter Harries (2019)
North Carolina State University

Brian Kloeppel (2020)
Western Carolina University

Kim LaScola Needy (2019)
University of Arkansas

Meredith Welch-Devine (2018)
University of Georgia

William Person (ex officio w/vote)
Alabama State University
#Thursday, February 22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00–6:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>1:00–5:00 pm</td>
<td>Optional Tour to Crystal Bridges</td>
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| 8:00 am–5:00 pm | Council of Historically Black Graduate Schools (CHBGS)  
Separate Registration Required |
| 4:00–5:30 pm  | Executive Committee Meeting                                           |
| 5:30–7:00 pm  | Joint Welcoming Reception of CSGS and CHBGS  
*William Person, President, CHBGS, Alabama State University*  
*Ernest L. Brothers, President, CSGS, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*  
*White River Room* |
| 7:00 pm       | Meet New Colleagues Dinners                                           |

CSGS has developed into a very large and robust organization, and in large organizations, it can be difficult for new as well as seasoned members to get to know each other and to engage in the conversations and networking activities that are so valuable to the graduate education community.

This year we will continue the organized dinner option (please note that each person pays for his/her own dinner). The CSGS Executive Committee hopes to enable informal conversations and discussions over dinner at one of Fayetteville’s many intriguing and cosmopolitan restaurants within walking distance of the conference hotel. Dinner sign-up sheets along with menus will be posted near the registration desk.

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Keep the conversation going!  
#CSGS18
Friday, February 23

Registration

Breakfast
Sponsored by Educational Testing Service (ETS)

Presidential Welcome and Address
Discovery and Innovation in Graduate Education
Ernest L. Brothers, President, CSGS

Welcome to the 47th Annual Meeting of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools! This year’s theme—Discovery and Innovation in Graduate Education—fits well with our location in Fayetteville, Arkansas. This area gave rise to one of the great retailing innovations (Walmart) of the last century. This once small regional store has become one of the largest retailers in the world. This innovation was sparked by a single vision to serve smaller communities with a store that provided high levels of product choice with the lowest prices, providing the best value to its customers. Today Walmart continues to be challenged by other innovations in retailing, such as Amazon. This provides a parallel to the academic world that we serve. As graduate schools, we too are continuing to discover new and exciting ways to deliver graduate education. We are being challenged each day to discover new methods for working with our students, engaging them in valuable education, and making sure that both our organizations and students are prepared for the future.

We hope that these sessions will help you discover new ways to enhance your graduate education and to find innovations that enrich the graduate experience for everyone at your institution.

Provost’s Welcoming Remarks
Jim Coleman, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Friday, February 23

9:00–10:00 am
Eureka Springs Ballroom
A/B/C

Plenary I—The View from CGS: Discovery and Innovation in Graduate Education
Suzanne T. Ortega, President, CGS

Students are at the center of discovery and innovation. As they master the conceptual and analytic tools of their fields, they produce new knowledge and create the innovations that shift paradigms and change lives. This talk highlights the extraordinary contributions graduate students make and will outline some of the strategies graduate deans are using to ensure that graduate students are prepared to take intellectual risks and respond to the rapidly changing 21st century career landscape.

10:00–10:15 am
Atrium

Refreshments and Networking Break

10:15–11:15 am

Concurrent 1—Issues Related to International Students
Organizer: Peter Harries, North Carolina State University

Assisting International Students with the Initial Transition to Graduate Education in the US
Facilitators: Michael Freeman, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville  
Mindi Stevenson, John Brown University  
Yasushi Onodera, Arkansas Tech University

International graduate students have unique needs related to their transitions to our institutions. This session will cover pre-arrival communications, arrival services, orientation, and the issues of academic integrity and sexual harassment. The panelists represent the international student offices from three different types of graduate institutions: a Public Doctoral University Highest Research Activity, a Public Master’s University: Larger Programs, and a Private Master’s University: Medium Programs.
Friday, February 23

**Exploring Academic Challenges: International Student Perspectives and Faculty Perceptions of English Language Readiness**

*Facilitators: Leyah Bergman-Lanier, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*  
  *Lynn Mosesso, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*

This session will explore English language and cultural training needs and challenges faced by international graduate students and international teaching assistants. Presenters will consider effective conditional admissions paradigms for students; appropriate standards, readiness training models, and support; successful linguistic socio-cultural transitions; success rate data on Pre-Academic training; and research data on the perspectives and expectations of students and faculty.

**National Politics and the Future of Graduate Education: What are the Probable Effects of Future U.S. National Election Outcomes on Graduate Education?**

*Facilitators: Brinck Kerr, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*  
  *Pearl Dowe, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*  
  *Andrew Dowdle, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*  
  *Michael T. Miller, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*  
  *Todd Shields, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*

A roundtable discussion on the upcoming U. S. 2018 midterm elections and the 2020 presidential election. In addition to focusing on the elections themselves, panelists will discuss the probable effects of different election outcomes on various aspects of graduate education.

**Networking Lunch**

**Exhibitor Fair**
Plenary II—Near Misses and New Matters: The Evolving Higher Education Legal Landscape
Mackenzie Wilfong, General Counsel, Tulsa Community College

This presentation will include an update on the legal landscape for graduate education focusing on the near misses from 2017 and the new emerging issues we can anticipate in 2018. The presentation will include interesting cases and practical analysis of the impact on federal enforcement changes to critical federal laws including FLSA, Title IX, ADA/Section 504, and more.

Concurrent 2—Policies Related to Legal Issues
Organizers: Jean Van Delinder, Oklahoma State University
Brian Kloeppe, Western Carolina University

Graduate Program Directors: Defining Roles and Providing Support
Facilitator: Julie Masterson, Missouri State University

Missouri State University recently began a project to more clearly define the role of the Graduate Program Director and identify best practices for selection and support. We will share the results of the job analysis and plans for developmental training. Possible collaboration with other universities also will be discussed.
NSF Discussion
Facilitator: Ernestine Easter, NSF

The National Science Foundation is an independent agency set up to “promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense...” through basic scientific research. By several measures, the Foundation has succeeded reasonably well. However, it is also argued by critics that participation in NSF-funded research activities has not been broad. If so, is it because not enough quality proposals are coming from under-represented groups? What can be done to remedy the situation? The National Science Foundation takes the issue of broadening participation very seriously and has embarked on a series of activities to improve upon current performance. The presenter will discuss several funding opportunities available in the Social, Behavioral and Economics (SBE) Directorate of the National Science Foundation and discuss possible strategies for success in submitting a proposal. This is part of SBE’s strategy of broadening participation in NSF-funded activities.

Utilizing the CRM: A 21st Century Approach Aligning Graduate Recruitment, Admissions and Student Success
Facilitators: Cheri Poellot, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
DiBrenna Agbenyiga, University of Texas at San Antonio
Dean Campbell, North Carolina A&T University
AnneDella Hines, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Increasingly, technology has become a major part of higher education’s DNA and has modified our approach to engaging students. This is most prominent with respect to the recruitment, admissions and engagement landscape of graduate students. The session will summarize the development and implementation of innovative technology solutions that integrate the graduate recruitment, admissions and retention policies that align with the 21st century graduate student. Lessons learned and best practices will be shared.
Friday, February 23

3:00–3:15 pm
Atrium

Refreshment/Networking Break

3:15–4:15 pm
Eureka Springs Ballroom
A/B/C

Plenary III—Advocacy/Development Panel Session
Maureen Grasso, North Carolina State University
Mark Power, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

It is important to continually advocate to a wide range of stakeholders to show the tremendous public value of graduate education on our campus, within our state, across the nation and throughout the world. These efforts can lead to advancement in the form of philanthropic support, thereby strengthening graduate education on our campuses, and creating a stronger campus overall.

4:20–5:20 pm
Eureka Springs Ballroom D

Concurrent 3—Advocacy/Development
Organizer: Peter Harries, North Carolina State University

Best Advancement Practices for Graduate Schools
Facilitators: Mark Power, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Julie Olsen, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Advancement efforts for graduate schools can seem more complicated, as graduate students have multiple allegiances and are harder to track; philanthropy differs across cultures; and there exists a greater need to communicate and coordinate efforts with campus partners. Discuss and learn best advancement practices through a facilitated discussion using table top exercises aimed at overcoming these obstacles.
Friday, February 23

**Bella Vista Room**

**Discovering Innovative Partnerships: the Graduate School and Student Government**

*Facilitator: Arley Ward, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*

Partnerships between graduate schools and graduate student governments are among the most innovative, effective, and overlooked in higher education. When working in concert, concerns and initiatives important to graduate education benefit from increased access to university administration, buy-in from faculty and students, and funding opportunities. Using the University of Arkansas as a lens, this session stresses the importance of these partnerships, offers insights on how to develop student government at the graduate level, and provides the opportunity to develop action plans to maximize these innovative partnerships at your home institutions.

**Petit Jean Room**

**Developing a Graduate Student Professional Center: Centralizing the Graduate Engagement and Professional Development Experience**

*Facilitators: John Shaffer, University of Texas at San Antonio, Cyrus Fernandez, University of Texas at San Antonio*

The next generation of graduate students expect dynamic environments full of choice with spaces that promote community and collaboration. By leveraging the spaces in a building, campus planners and administrators can create immersive environments where interdisciplinary learning can happen. The design of a Graduate Student Professional Development Center elevates the graduate student experience by offering a physical space that supports community building and sense of belonging. The key elements of how we designed this center and report about our successes after the first year will be of interest to those seeking ideas to build a center of their own.
Friday, February 23

5:30–7:00 pm  Poster Session and Networking Reception at the Walton Arts Center
   Organizers: Jack DeRochi, Winthrop University
   George Crandell, Auburn University

7:00 pm  Dinner on your own

Saturday, February 24

7:00 am–noon  Registration
   Lobby

7:30–8:30 am  Breakfast
   White River Room
   Sponsored by Liaison International

7:30–8:30 am  Bill Carr New Deans & Associate Deans Breakfast
   Petit Jean Room
   Facilitators: Mark Garrison, Morgan State University
   Maureen Grasso, North Carolina State University
Plenary IV—Mentoring Graduate Students: Relevant Principles and Practices

Today, U.S. graduate schools are being challenged to enroll, retain and graduate more U.S. citizens with advanced degrees. This call is particularly true for areas of national need such as STEM, business, health, and the bio-medical sciences. To meet this mandate, several pertinent issues will have to be addressed: 1) more expansive and better planned outreach; 2) relevant marketing materials that make the case for “Why Graduate School”; 3) improvement in orientation and mentoring practices that facilitate transitioning to graduate school and degree program planning; and 4) making graduate education accessible and inviting to underrepresented minority students (URM). This plenary session explores mentoring as a critical element in graduate students’ academic, career, personal, and professional growth and development. A key feature of the session is the exploration of factors that serve as barriers to retention, success, and graduation of URM graduate students.

Key topics: Diversifying Graduate Education—Trends and Developments, Decoding the Language and Philosophy for Mentoring Grad Students, Mentoring URM Students—Meeting Their Needs and Expectations.

Refreshment/Networking Break

3MT® Heats 1 & 2: Concurrent
Organizer: Meredith Welch-Devine, University of Georgia

3MT® Heat 1

3MT® Heat 2
Saturday, February 24

11:00–11:15 am  
*Refreshment/Networking Break*

11:15–12:30 pm  
**3MT® Heats 3 & 4: Concurrent**  
*Organizer: Meredith Welch-Devine, University of Georgia*

11:15–12:30 pm  
3MT® Heats 3 & 4: Concurrent

11:00–11:15 am  
**Atrium**

12:30–2:30 pm  
**Lunch Award Ceremony/Business Meeting**  
*Ernest L. Brothers, President, CSGS*

2:30–3:30 pm  
**Concurrent 4—Mentoring and Student Success I**  
*Organizer: Lori Bruce, Mississippi State University*

Vulnerable Populations: Seeing, Understanding, and Meeting the Needs of PhD Students and Post Docs  
*Facilitators: Bryan Porter, Old Dominion University*  
*Chris Rios, Baylor University*  
*Laura DeMarse, North Carolina State University*

Graduate students and post-docs make up a vulnerable population on university campuses. High academic and research expectations, low wages, and challenging career prospects often combine to create periods of considerable stress and anxiety. In addition are the particular challenges faced by distinct subgroups, whether international students, underrepresented students, or others. This session will explore some of these issues, asking attendees to share some of the issues they are addressing on their campuses, and hearing from panelists about their efforts to tackle three related topics.
Saturday, February 24

Bella Vista Room

Fostering Graduate Student Development: Onboarding and Mentorship
Facilitator: Susan Carvalho, University of Alabama

This session will focus on both initial and continuing support of graduate students, drawing on the experience of the University of Alabama’s Graduate School. Two graduate assistants will participate in the panel, to include student perspectives as well as those of faculty administrators. The session will focus on two particular programs run by the UA Graduate School: a high-impact format for initial TA orientation/onboarding, and the Tide Together mentorship program for underrepresented students (a triangulated program that links the new mentee with a student peer-mentor and a faculty mentor).

Petit Jean Room

Preparing PhD Students for Diverse Careers
Facilitator: Kim LaScola Needy, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Panelists: Karen Butler-Purry, Texas A&M University
Mark Garrison, Morgan State University
Marvin Hackert, University of Texas at Austin

PhD students must be prepared to be multidimensional adaptive scholars to offset concerns with high attrition, long time to degree, training focused on declining academic careers, weak transferable skills and narrowly focused scholars ill-equipped to work broadly and creatively. Learn about best practices to address these concerns and about data collection efforts of PhD career pathways aimed at program improvement.

3:30–3:45 pm
Atrium

Refreshment/Networking Break
The WRITE Thing to Do: Increasing Graduate Level Writing Development  
*Facilitator: Wendi Zimmer, Texas A&M University*

Based upon research conducted with graduate students at an R1 university, this presentation introduces a model for graduate writing growth through a combination of active discussion, explicit modeling, and interactive activities. All recommendations are backed by empirical research, demonstrating the leveraging power of strong writing habits on developing confidence in writing and successful writing and publishing productivity. Strong writing skills are imperative to increasing competitiveness in academic and other professional fields and matters for continued success. Attendees will leave with strategies for developing and supporting graduate students writing, applicable to their own writing.

Graduate Student Lunch ‘n Learns: Two Way Conversations for Student Mentoring and Success  
*Facilitator: Sheryl Tucker, Oklahoma State University*

Healthy and productive advisor-student relationships are vital for graduate student success. Lunch ‘n Learns are an effective way to engage students in two-way conversation on what effective advisor-student relationships are and to elicit both concerns and constructive ideas from students for developing such. Lunch ‘n Learns begin with a short introduction over lunch and progress to students in small groups with a facilitator working through scenarios on advisor-student interactions, and conclude with report-outs for the entire group. This case study session will use this format (without the lunch!) to work through scenarios about using Lunch ‘n Learns for two-way learning strategy as a means to engage students in their own path to success.
Saturday, February 24

**Petit Jean Room**

**Best Practices in Supporting Inter- and Trans-disciplinary Graduate Degree Programs**
*Facilitator: Jason Osborne, Clemson University*

Based on a review of literature, practices at peer institutions, and experiences at Clemson and other institutions seeking to nurture and support interdisciplinary degree programs, we will present some basic practices that can improve the probability of success by addressing some common issues: lack of access to typical resources, lack of support from traditional (disciplinary) focused faculty and administrative structures and policies, lack of established “top tier” publishing outlets, promotion and tenure policies that can impede success, etc.

**4:45–5:00 pm**
*Atrium*

**Refreshment/Networking Break**

**5:00–6:00 pm**
*Eureka Springs Ballroom A/B/C*

**3MT® Final Competition & Closing Remarks**

**6:00–7:15 pm**

**Wine/Beer and Cheese Reception at the Pryor Center**

**7:15 pm**

**State Meetings and Dinners (optional)**
Sunday, February 25

8:30–9:15 a.m.
Executive Committee Breakfast
Lost Bridge Room

Share Your Feedback!
The CSGS Executive Committee would appreciate hearing about your experiences at the 2018 Meeting of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools. Your input helps the organizers of this conference plan future events.

tiny.utk.edu/csgs-2018

Thanks to the University of Arkansas and the Arkansas Graduate Schools for their sponsorship and for their assistance in local arrangements!
Poster Session

Eric Paulson and Brittany Davis
Texas State University
Graduate Student Resource Awareness

Meredith Welch-Devine and Julie Coffield
University of Georgia
Training STEM LEADers at the University of Georgia

Michelle Rodems and Latonia Craig
University of Louisville
Graduate Retention: Building Capacity from the Individual to the Institutional

Laura C. Padgett
Appalachian State University
Trails to Success: Transformational Professional and Personal Development for Graduate Students

Cecilia A. McIntosh, Karin Bartoszuk, and Scott F. Kirkby
East Tennessee State University
Innovation from Feedback: Lessons from the Graduate Student Exit Survey 2011–2017

Heather M. Brandt
University of South Carolina
Addressing the Professional Development Needs of Graduate Students through Mixed-delivery Formats

Peter Harries and Michael Carter
North Carolina State University
Mentoring Doctoral Students: Differences in Personal Attributes that are Valued Most by Advisees

Sandy Rao, Andrea Golato and Caitlin Leahy
Texas State University
Social and Digital Media Use Among Graduate Students

Murray F. Mitchell
University of South Carolina
Designing Courses Within Constraints Without Compromising Integrity

Alana James
DoctoralNet
Evolution and Interdependence, Discovery and Innovation: Integration of On Demand Technology in Graduate Education

Walton Arts Center
495 W. Dickson St.
Friday, February 23
5:30pm–7:00pm

sponsored by
Special Conference Events

Group Dinners

CSGS has developed into a very large and robust organization, and in large organizations, it can be difficult for new as well as seasoned members to get to know each other and to engage in the conversations and networking activities that are so valuable to the graduate education community.

This year we will continue the organized dinner option (please note that each person pays for his/her own dinner). The CSGS Executive Committee hopes to enable informal conversations and discussions over dinner at one of Fayetteville’s many intriguing and cosmopolitan restaurants within walking distance of the conference hotel. Dinner sign-up sheets along with menus will be posted near the registration desk.

Optional Thursday Tours

On Thursday, February 22, there will be two tours offered to conference participants. One tour takes a group to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art (crystalbridges.org). Others may wish to go on the walking tour of the University of Arkansas campus, to see sights such as Old Main and the Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium.

Reception at the Walton Arts Center

On Friday evening, there will be a poster session and reception at the Walton Arts Center. The Walton Arts Center is Arkansas’ premiere center for performing arts and entertainment. It is located at 495 W. Dickson St.

3MT® Competition

Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) is a research communication competition originally developed by The University of Queensland in 2008, and now has been widely adopted at universities around the world. The exercise challenges master’s and doctoral students to present a compelling talk on their Thesis/Dissertation topic and its significance. Many theses and dissertations can be over 80,000 words and take hours to present, but students in this competition have just three minutes and one slide to convey their often highly-technical research to a lay audience. On Saturday, 4 heats will take place over the course of the day, with a final competition at the end of the day.
Explore Fayetteville

Fayetteville and Northwest Arkansas have a lot to offer visitors, whether you are wanting to be intellectually and culturally enriched, to get back to nature, or find something interesting to purchase.

**Museums**

- **21C Museum Hotel**
  21cmuseumhotels.com

- **Arkansas Air & Military Museum**
  arkansasairandmilitary.com

- **Bella Vista Historical Museum**
  arkansasairandmilitary.com

- **Clinton House Museum**
  clintonhousemuseum.org

- **Crystal Bridges Museum of Modern Art**
  crystalbridges.org

- **Museum of Native American History**
  monah.us

- **Peel Mansion Museum & Heritage Gardens**
  peelcompton.org

- **Rogers Historical Museum**
  rogershistoricalmuseum.org

- **Shiloh Museum of Ozark History**
  shilohmuseum.org

- **The Walmart Museum**
  walmartmuseum.com

- **Scott Family Amazeum**
  amazeum.org

**Shopping**

- **Northwest Arkansas Mall**
  northwestarkansasmall.com

- **Pinnacle Hills Shopping Mall**
  pinnaclehillspromenade.com

- **Terra Studios**
  terrastudios.com

- **War Eagle Mill**
  wareaglemill.com

**Parks and Trails**

- **Botanical Gardens of the Ozarks**
  bgozarks.org

- **Lake Fayetteville**
  fayetteville-ar.gov/3130/Lake-Fayetteville

- **Wilson Park**
  https://goo.gl/I14Kfi

- **Razorback Regional Greenway**
  nwatrails.org
2018 Award Recipients

Master’s Thesis Award Recipients
Sponsored by ProQuest (Marlene Coles)

Life Sciences
James Fancher—Texas State University
*Evaluation of Soil Chemistry in Human Decomposition Sites*

Social Science, Education, and Business
Heather Hyden—University of Kentucky
*Cultivating a Culture of Food Justice: Impacts of Community Based Economies on Farmers and Neighborhood Leaders in the Case of Fresh Stop Markets in Kentucky*

Faculty Award Recipients

CSGS Award for Outstanding Mentor for Graduate Education in the Southern Region
Dr. Brad Dufrene, Professor of Psychology and Director of the School Psychology Service Center
*University of Southern Mississippi*

CSGS Award for Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education in the Southern Region
Dr. Patricia Koski, Associate Dean of the Graduate School and International Education
*University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*
Past Award Winners

CSGS Award for Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education in the Southern Region

Joyce Lawrence (1997)

CSGS Award for Faculty Excellence in Mentoring Graduate Students

Dr. F. Benjamin Zhan (2017)  Dr. Sara Finney (2012)
Dr. Karen DePauw (2016)  Dr. William Dennis (2011)
Dr. Craig Scot Cashwell (2013)
Past Award Winners

CSGS Master’s Thesis Awards


CSGS Master’s Thesis Award in Digital Scholarship

## CSGS Presidents 1972–2018

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<th>Vice President</th>
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### Meeting Sites 1972–2019

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