WHO WE ARE

Located within the UGA Graduate School, Experiential Professional Development (xPD) serves as a hub of career development resources for master’s and doctoral students at the University of Georgia. Through industry partnerships, unique programming and enhanced marketing of existing resources and opportunities, xPD connects graduate students with tools to help them best utilize their UGA degrees.

**Mission:** To enhance support for UGA graduate students who are interested in industry, government, and non-profit career fields.

**Vision:** By 2025 the Experiential Professional Development program will be a hallmark of graduate education at UGA and a national model of excellence for graduate career development and support.

**Target demographic:** All master’s and doctoral students (7,000+) at the University of Georgia in a broad range of disciplines. Emphasis on doctoral students in life sciences, social sciences, agriculture and the humanities.

MEET OUR TEAM

Andrew Crain is the Director of Experiential Professional Development. Andrew has 10 years of higher education experience, including a previous stint in the UGA Career Center and work as a talent acquisition specialist for the University of Georgia. Andrew is also a PhD candidate at UGA.

In Fall 2019, the xPD team will add two graduate assistants to support our programming efforts. Amy Yandell is a doctoral student in the Institute of Higher Education at UGA with a background in music. Emily Stone is an accelerated master’s student in the School of Public & International Affairs (SPIA) with an emphasis in communication. If you are interested in partnering on future program efforts, please let us know!

BUILDING NEW CONNECTIONS

xPD builds bridges for graduate students to find their dream jobs. Below are the companies and organizations that have been represented at xPD programming:

- Accenture
- Bayer Crop Science
- Boehringer-Ingelheim
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Broad River Data
- Carnival Cruise Lines
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Clayton State University
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- Jabian Consulting
- Johnson & Johnson
- Management Leadership for Tomorrow
- Portland Smart City
- Radiant Solutions
- San Diego State University
- Slingshot Product Development Group
- The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
- The Leadership Alliance
- National Institute of Standards and Technology
- The University of Georgia
- U.S. Department of Agriculture

In addition to corporate and government partnerships, xPD has facilitated nine paid campus internships for Summer 2019 for doctoral students in the humanities and social sciences. Host units include:

- Carl Vinson Institute of Government
- Development & Alumni Relations
- Digital Humanities (2 positions)
- Innovation Gateway
- Office of Industry Engagement
- Office of Proposal Enhancement
- Russell Special Collections Library
- Sponsored Projects
In Spring 2019 over 450 students participated in xPD programs, with additional impact through email and social media marketing of career development resources/events. Programs featured 20 guest speakers (including many alumni) and speakers from or visits to over 20 different organizations. Of those who attended xPD events, 87% said they would recommend the program to others.

WHAT STUDENTS SAY...

“It was a refreshing take on career planning and a framework for understanding how people’s lives unfold that seemed much more realistic, applicable, and honest than more traditional career-planning advice.”

“Thank you for putting on this and many other xPD events. I attended 3 in the past week and have learned a lot and appreciate the resource.”

“I really liked the idea of a virtual panel, and the time slot worked quite well. Like many grad students, I find it difficult to justify taking time out of the work day to attend an event like this, so doing it in the evening helped.”

“Betsy and the healthcare consultants were extremely helpful in giving guidance and options for someone in my particular scenario that I wouldn’t be able to get on campus or online.”

In April, 28 UGA graduate students had the opportunity to explore careers at the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank. Participants spent the day listening to presentations about career opportunities, networking with current employees and participating in a tour. The visit invited connections between our talented students and careers in monetary policy at the Atlanta Fed.

Approximately half of UGA PhD recipients go into industry, government or nonprofit jobs after graduation, which means that experiential learning has become an increasingly important feature of UGA graduate education.
PROGRAM OFFERINGS: YEAR IN REVIEW

NOVEMBER ‘18
- Personal Branding for Graduate Students
- Life After Graduate School
- Exploring Industry Careers

FEBRUARY ‘19
- The Industry Job Search
- Exploring Industry Careers
- Industry Career Coaching Circle
- The Federal Job Search

APRIL ‘19
- Exploring Industry Careers
- Faculty Lunch & Learn: Graduate Student Career Development
- Personal Branding for Graduate Students
- Careers in Higher Education Administration
- Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
- Symposium: Careers in Consulting
  Boehringer-Ingelheim (w/ Georgia Bio)
- Personal Branding for Graduate Students (English Dept. Career Symposium)

JUNE ‘19
- ACSB BioTech Training Course
- Crop Protection Tour (St. Louis)

BY THE NUMBERS:
- 450 + Student Participants in xPD Programs
- 20 + Companies Represented

FEATURED PARTNERS

GEORGIA Innovation Gateway
GEORGIA Career Center
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA Postdoctoral Affairs Office of Research
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA Terry College of Business
Department of English Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
Department of Microbiology
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
Georgia Bio
The Life Sciences Partnership
ENTR
Make your mark.

MARCH ‘19
- Careers in Science Policy & Outreach
  Networking Event: FDA-GMP Industry Conference

MAY ‘19
- Design Thinking Workshop (w/ Terry College)
- Beyond the Professoriate Online Career Conference
- Encore Webinar Presentations from Beyond the Professoriate Conference

Workshop
Site Visit
Virtual Panel
Other