

TIMELY TOPICS

Fall 2025 Faculty & Administrative Tracks



TIMELY TOPICS

Timely Topics is a series of opportunities to engage with subject matter experts on topics relevant to graduate education. Every session is open to all who wish to attend, however, The Graduate School highlights three tracks (student, faculty, and administrative) to help registrants identify which sessions may be most relevant to their interests. This flyer includes sessions designed for faculty and for staff and faculty who hold an administrative role. Sessions for the student track are listed on the [Timely Topics](#) webpage, along with slides, recordings, and resources from past sessions.

REGISTRATION

All sessions are virtual. To register for any of this semester's Timely Topics sessions, click the registration link below.

[REGISTRATION](#)

AT A GLANCE

FACULTY TRACK

- Graduate Student Enrollment* (September 11)
- Partnering for Success: A Look at UConn Liaison Services for Graduate Students and Faculty* (September 18)
- Supporting Graduate Students Through Inclusive Mentorship (October 9)
- Supporting International Graduate Students at UConn* (October 23)
- Graduate Admissions: Reading and Reviewing Applications in the Slate Reader (October 30)
- Helping Graduate Students Thrive Through the Career Decisions-making Process* (November 13)

ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK

- Graduate Student Enrollment* (September 11)
- Partnering for Success: A Look at UConn Liaison Services for Graduate Students and Faculty* (September 18)
- Graduate Admissions: Program Application Processing in Slate and Admissions Cycle Kick Off (September 25)
- Supporting International Graduate Students at UConn* (October 23)
- Helping Graduate Students Thrive Through the Career Decisions-making Process* (November 13)

**session appears on multiple tracks*

CONTACT

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

GRADUATE STUDENT ENROLLMENT: NAVIGATING POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND REPORTS

FACULTY TRACK

ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK

This session provides a graduate student-focused overview of enrollment policies and processes to help you use the graduate enrollment tools available to you most effectively. We will explore the enrollment reports The Graduate School provides and how departments can best utilize them, discuss key enrollment processes managed by the TGS, such as degree time limits and extensions, voluntary separations, and reinstatement, and provide guidance on where to find the information you need (or who to ask when you're unsure!).

DATE: Thursday, September 11, 2025

TIME: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

FACILITATOR:

Megan Petsa, Director of Graduate Student Administration, The Graduate School

PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS: A LOOK AT UCONN LIBRARY LIASON SERVICES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS AND FACULTY

FACULTY TRACK

ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK

Join Fyiane Nsilo-Swai, Research Services Librarian for the Social Sciences, for an engaging session on how UConn Library liaisons can support your teaching, research, and graduate students. Drawing from her 25+ years of experience and current work with departments in the Social Sciences, Fyiane will share real-world examples of how faculty and graduate students can collaborate with their liaison librarian. Learn about services like course-integrated instruction, research consultations, embedded librarianship, and more. Whether you're new to UConn or looking to deepen your engagement with the library, this session will highlight practical ways to make the most of your liaison relationship at both the individual and department-wide level.

DATE: Thursday, September 18, 2025

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATOR:

Fyiane Nsilo-Swai, MLS, Research Services Librarian for the Social Science Librarian, Homer Babbidge Library





GRADUATE ADMISSIONS: PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESSING IN SLATE AND ADMISSIONS CYCLE KICK OFF!

ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK

Join us for a deep dive into application requirements as part of the graduate admissions process. This session will go over updates, the process The Graduate School uses before programs see their applications (Initial Grad Audit bin), and what programs should be looking for in their program review process (Program Audit bin). This will include the difference in accessing graduate admissions requirements versus program requirements, how to upload recommendations, and checking materials on the checklist. Please bring your questions, as we will be holding time at the end for Q&A.

DATE: Thursday, September 25, 2025

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATORS:

The Graduate School's Graduate Admissions and Slate Core Teams

SUPPORTING GRADUATE STUDENTS THROUGH INCLUSIVE MENTORSHIP

FACULTY TRACK

Join us for an engaging and structured dialogue focused on effective mentoring of graduate students and fostering an inclusive academic environment. This session will highlight best practices that support the holistic development of mentees, both in their research endeavors and teaching responsibilities. Participants will explore strategies for building inclusive mentoring relationships, addressing the diverse needs of graduate students, and creating supportive, equitable environments that enhance student success. The discussion will be applicable across multiple contexts—from individual labs and research groups to departmental and institutional levels—providing actionable insights for faculty, postdocs, and academic leaders committed to cultivating a culture of inclusive excellence in graduate education.

DATE: Thursday, October 9, 2025

TIME: 1 :00 PM - 2:00 PM

FACILITATORS:

Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Associate Professor, Department of Animal Science, and Faculty Affiliate for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and The Graduate School

Peter Chen, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Sustainability, and Community and Urban Studies and Faculty Affiliate for The Graduate School





SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENTS AT UCONN

FACULTY TRACK

ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK

International graduate students can face significant challenges on their transition to new social and academic climates at UConn and are impacted by various policies and laws that differ from their domestic colleagues. This session will discuss the logistical challenges specific to advising international graduate students.

DATE: Thursday, October 23, 2025

TIME: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

FACILITATOR:

Arthur Galinat, Director, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)



GRADUATE ADMISSIONS: READING AND REVIEWING APPLICATIONS IN THE SLATE READER

FACULTY TRACK

During this training, we will cover updates and how to review applications in the Slate reader. This presentation will include best practices for application review, including how to fill out reader review forms, queue applications to others, and enter final program admission decisions. We will discuss timelines for application review and official admission decisions, along with why it is important that all applications have program admission decisions entered by the end of the admission cycle. Please bring your questions as we will be holding time at the end for Q&A.

DATE: Thursday, October 30, 2025

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATORS:

Holly Brunette, Graduate Admissions Specialist, The Graduate School

Meg Buckley, Director of Graduate Admissions, The Graduate School

Shirley Fiasconaro, Graduate Admissions Specialist, The Graduate School

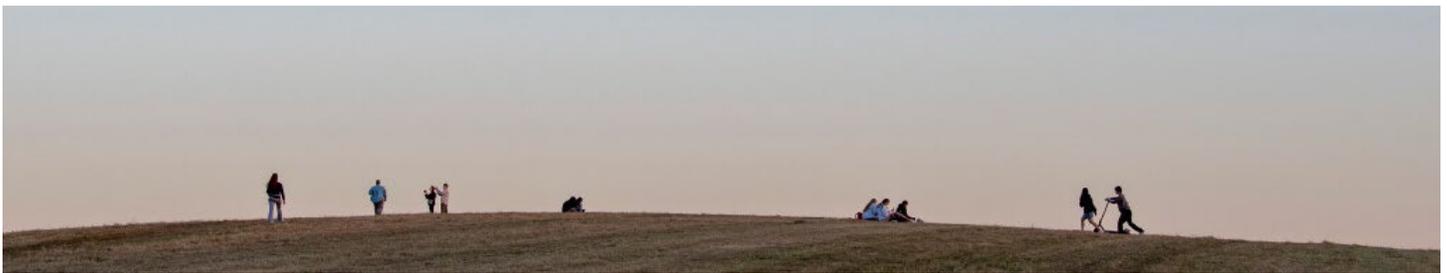
Katie O'Keefe, Graduate Admissions Specialist, The Graduate School

Lisa Pane, Director of CRM & Data Management, The Graduate School

Sarah Shore, Assistant Director of Graduate Admissions, The Graduate School

Paula Steele, Assistant Director of CRM & Data Management, The Graduate School





HELPING GRADUATE STUDENTS THRIVE THROUGH THE CAREER DECISIONS-MAKING PROCESS

FACULTY TRACK

ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK

Join us for this interactive session to discuss how best to support doctoral students while they explore career options. This session will highlight specific tools students can use whether they are exploring faculty roles, non-faculty roles, or both. Participants will learn how to guide PhDs through the development of a career plan and through career-related conversations. The discussion will be applicable across disciplines and will equip faculty with strategies used nationwide to help graduate students thrive.

DATE: Thursday, November 13, 2025

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATOR:

Melanie Sinche, Director of Graduate Student Success, The Graduate School

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REGISTRATION



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