Meet Our Team

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Purpose

• The Office of Graduate Diversity serves as the focal point and resource for diversity, equity, and inclusion services, outreach, and consultation for graduate students, faculty and staff at the University of Utah.

• Our office provides the tools and support necessary for prospective and enrolled students from underrepresented backgrounds in graduate education to successfully achieve their academic goals, graduate, and pursue professional careers.
Who Are Historically Underrepresented Students?

• According to NACME (2013), historically underrepresented students are persons who are members of racial, ethnic, or gender groups that have been disproportionately underrepresented for a period of more than ten years. Traditionally, they are members of groups that have “historically comprised a minority of the US population.” This typically includes students who identify as Black/African American, Native/Indigenous/American Indians/Alaskan Natives, and Hispanics. A broader definition includes Asian and Pacific Islanders.

• Members of underrepresented racial groups are not only underrepresented numerically but also systematically through social structures and the ways in which power is situated among groups. This systemic underrepresentation continues to impact access and equity issues for students of historically underrepresented groups.

• Our office seeks to address more than improving compositional diversity but to systematically improve academic integration, socialization and community membership (Griffin, Muniz, & Smith, 2016; Lovitts, 2001).

• We provide opportunities for improving access and equity in graduate education through scholarships and professional and leadership development programming.
Some of the Resources and Services We Provide

- Serve as a resource for graduate students from pre-application to graduation.
- Management of fellowships and scholarships for diverse graduate students.
- Conduct programming for graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds.
- Tailored EDI consultations and presentations to university stakeholders including academic colleges, departments and campus centers.
Comprehensive Resource Guide for Diverse Graduate Students

- Revised Guide is complete!
- 40 pages long
- Community building initiatives through the Diversity Office
- Funding support (fellowships, scholarships, travel, external)
- University advocates and roles
- University writing resources (and success with thesis/dissertation)
- Professional development resources
- Mental health resources and events
- BIPOC restaurants and businesses in Salt Lake City & UT
- Recommended resources (books, podcasts, social media, etc.)
Graduate Fellowships, Grants & Assistantships

Graduate School Diversity Office:
• Emerging Diversity Scholars Fellowship
• Ronald E. McNair Graduate Fellowship
• GSDO Assistantship
• Enhancement Grants
Founded in 1976, the National Name Exchange (NNE) is a consortium of fifty-five nationally-known universities which annually collect and exchange the names of their talented but underrepresented ethnic minority students who are in their sophomore, junior or senior year of their undergraduate education. The purpose of the Exchange is to ensure that participating universities continue to identify a pool of qualified students who could be recruited to the graduate programs at these institutions. The consortium of universities conducts other activities consistent with the national efforts to increase the enrollment of traditionally underrepresented peoples in graduate education. UIC has been part of the NNE since 2012.

Undergraduate students with a 3.0 or higher from underrepresented backgrounds are eligible to enroll between March 16-June 15, 2023.

Once on the site, undergraduate students insert this password: NNE2023.
Events

- Graduate Student Orientation
- Welcome Back Social
- Monthly Socials
- Graduate Student Parent Group
- McNair Alumni Network Socials
- Paint Night
- Spa day (New)
- Professional Development & Leadership Series (New)
- Preview Day (New)
- Accepted Student Day (New)
- Dissertation Support Group (Summer, 2023)
Initiatives Under Development

For Prospective Students & Departments

• Acceptance Day
• HBCU Collaborations

For Current Students

• Assessment plan and program improvement
• Qualitative evaluation of monthly BIPOC Socials
• Interest meetings for 23-24 GDO Executive Student Council
• Dissertation Support Group
Questions?

Contact us at diversity@gradschool.Utah.edu