

Getting the Most Out of Your Graduate Education

John Stevenson, PT, PhD
Associate Dean of Graduate Studies



**GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**
OFFICE OF
GRADUATE STUDIES

Graduate student expectations of faculty

- * Faculty are current in their discipline
- * Have broad and deep knowledge of their area(s) of scholarship
- * Are active in their professional organizations and societies
- * Share an ‘insider’s knowledge’ with their students
- * Make use of ‘adult learner’ strategies and can facilitate deep learning
- * Are judicious in their critical appraisal of student work
- * Give prompt and meaningful feedback that fosters professional development

What are faculty expectations of graduate students?

- * Greater initiative and self-directed learning
- * More professional behaviors (in and out of class)
 - * Communication
 - * Time management
 - * Feedback
 - * Responsibility
 - * Collegiality/cooperation with peers and faculty
- * Integrity and honest effort
- * Build on previous learning & experience

What *really* makes graduate education work?

- * Faculty mentorship... being mentored by a graduate faculty member makes the graduate program
- * Faculty role(s) as mentors...
 - * Motivator ... push/pull you to do your best
 - * Constructive critic... provide you honest feedback that results in significant improvements
 - * Experienced colleague... can offer experiential wisdom that is helpful
 - * Friendly guide... can help you safely & effectively navigate a path
 - * Supportive professional... for long-term relationship

Students as Mentors

- * Cohort and part-time students, particularly
 - * 2nd-yr students 'adopt' first years
- * Mix of older students with professional experience
- * Students who are further along in the program, ready to continue career or begin new careers at entry-level
- * Students mentoring students grows a graduate culture within the degree program
 - * Builds camaraderie, provides feedback/guidance

How do you find a mentor?

- * Read faculty bios for your degree program
 - * Graduate program website & Student Handbook
- * Meet your program faculty at degree program orientations
- * Talk with existing students further through the program
- * Talk with your program director & faculty
- * Talk with program alumni

Enriching Your Success and Professional Development



www.gvsu.edu/gs

<http://www.gvsu.edu/paces/register>

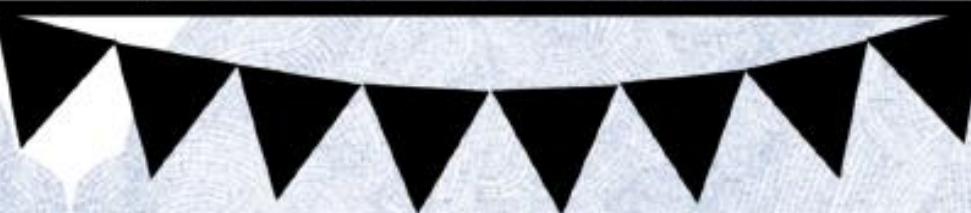
Graduate Student Association

Lauren N. Presutti
President GSA



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW
GSA WELCOME VIDEO](#)

GSA **Picnic!**



Join us and connect with your graduate community!

WHEN? Friday, September 11th 5:30 —7:30pm

WHO? Grad students, their friends and families, grad student organizations, faculty, and Louie the Laker!

WHERE? John Ball Zoo Hilltop Pavillion!

RSVP via online invitation found on our website or Facebook!

gvsu.edu/GSA facebook.com/GVGrads