



IMPACT OPPORTUNITIES TO

Support Students from Research to Job Search

Rackham supports graduate students in their professional and academic development during their student experience and as they transition to their career. Student success also depends on students' ability to explore and articulate the connection between their graduate scholarship and a range of career opportunities in which they can make an important difference.

Rackham aspires to expand career opportunities and readiness for all students through mentoring, coaching, employer engagement, internships, workshops, and other programs that lead to satisfying careers. Philanthropic gifts for graduate student career readiness and professional development expand the opportunities for Rackham students as they look to the future.



Program Support

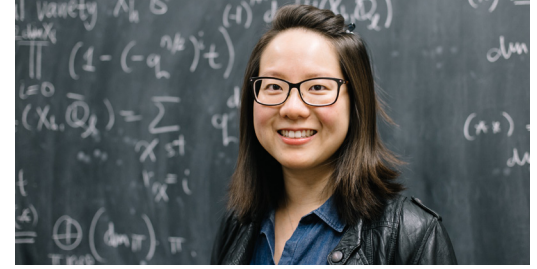
Sponsored Professional Development/Signature Experience Fund for Affinity Students

\$3 Million endowed/\$10,000 to \$20,000 expendable (per student)

Personal success comes when individuals best understand who they are, how their identities interact with society and their chosen field, and the intersections of their identities within themselves. These excursions would allow students from a variety of Rackham affinity groups to engage in personal development, that would not only enrich their well-being, but give them a better sense of confidence and certainty post-graduation. This scholarship is important as most funding for graduate students is available for academic presentations and conferences, but excludes opportunities that develop skill sets needed outside the traditional academic model.

How Your Support Helps

Your funding would help endow these scholarships for students, giving them the opportunity to seek experiences beyond academic conferences. Affinity groups include the following: LGBTQ+ students, students with disabilities, student veterans, first-generation students, students with children, international students, and students of color.



Public Communication Workshop

\$1 Million endowed/\$50,000 expendable

Graduate students are building the skills necessary to have an impact both in their fields and in society more broadly. To do so, however, requires the ability to communicate in ways that are accessible to those outside of one's own field. A public communication workshop would be a co-curricular opportunity meant to supplement the deep content expertise students develop in their programs by providing a way for them to learn effective communication strategies. Trainings would be led by communication and storytelling experts, helping a cohort of 15 to 30 students each year cultivate these skills. The program would also provide opportunities for students to present at venues off campus, such as local libraries, museums, and youth organizations, thus helping to enrich the intellectual ecosystem of our wider community off campus.

How Your Support Helps

Funding will provide stipends for student participants to avoid incurring a financial burden for this training, support highly skilled facilitators to lead workshops, and support the subsequent student speaker series as they present their topics at local organizations.



Student Support

Graduate education is crucial to Michigan's excellence as a research university. However, creation of knowledge and the discovery of global solutions require significant resources. Philanthropic gifts for graduate students make a Rackham degree accessible for many talented students who might otherwise not be able to afford to attend the country's number-one public research institution. Your generosity plays a critical role in allowing these students to thrive not only during their time here on campus, but for years after they have graduated.

Career Excursions and Treks **\$1 Million endowed/\$50,000 expendable**

We know from employers that relevant experience is critical to help students secure their first job. Rackham has successfully piloted experiential learning opportunities in Michigan, from one to several days, to explore a workplace and the opportunities involved in a specific organization or career. We would like to expand these opportunities beyond Southeast Michigan to enable us to engage in career excursions at employers across the country that are most likely to hire graduate students. Students will be able to travel from campus to sites in small groups to engage in career-related training sessions and alumni and employer networking events.

How Your Support Helps

Donor funding will allow Rackham to support student travel, lodging, and hosting costs associated with these opportunities.



In-Academic Term Internships

\$500,000 endowed/\$25,000 expendable per term

In-academic term internships provide a valuable learning alternative to time traditionally spent as a graduate student instructor or research assistant. A full-term internship provides the opportunity for students to develop their practical skills in non-academic settings. Participants receive tuition, fees, and GradCare health insurance, as well as a work plan and site agreement consultation with the Rackham Professional and Academic Development team. These experiences allow students to build competency in applying their research skills to real-world problems.

How Your Support Helps

Funding for graduate in-academic term internships will help support students with funding, including travel and living expenses, as well as stipends for students in unpaid internships.

Summer Graduate Internship Opportunities

\$250,000 endowed/\$10,000 expendable per student

Internships prepare Rackham students to tackle the world's most complex problems, gather information from many sources, and communicate solutions to experts and non-experts alike. Students hone their practical skills in real-world situations by participating in internships across the United States and in countries around the world. These opportunities allow graduate students to apply their skills in tangible ways and gain experience that will lead to future career possibilities, while linking their academic work with important practical challenges.

How Your Support Helps

Funding during the summer allows graduate students to collect data, accept unpaid internships in their area of professional expertise, or pursue partnerships with government, industry, or community organizations. Your gift will make it possible for students to pursue opportunities for summer internships, easing the stress of travel and living expenses, and provide stipends for students in unpaid roles.



Graduate Student Fellows Program

\$1 Million-\$10 Million endowed/\$50,000 to \$500,000 expendable

Solutions to the world's greatest challenges begin with new ideas and discovery, and graduate students play a vital role in bringing those ideas to reality. While specialized fellowship opportunities exist, establishing a broader, more inclusive fellowship cohort program with robust support would not only address a critical need for talent and capacity, but also provide access to U-M's world-class experts and resources while fostering collaboration and stimulating transdisciplinary research.

How Your Support Helps

In order to attract and retain the very best graduate students, it is vital that we offer a competitive package of support. This includes offering support for independent, cutting-edge research, mentoring, as well as opportunities to present at scientific meetings and publishing their findings. An enhanced support package combined with a community of scholars will put Rackham students at the forefront of their studies, advancing discovery on the Michigan campus.

Strategic Support

Rackham Annual Strategic Funds

\$50,000 Endowed/\$10,000 to \$50,000 expendable

Expendable, undesignated gifts are extraordinarily important to transforming the graduate student experience at Michigan. Contributions to one of Rackham's annual strategic funds make it possible to meet a variety of needs and challenges, including academic scholarship, research, equitable access, and experiential learning for Rackham graduate students at the master's or doctoral level and help them prepare for careers of quality and impact.



Ways to Fund Your Gift

Your gifts of cash, pledges, appreciated securities, qualified charitable contributions, or gifts from donor advised funds change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will make it possible for the best and brightest minds to complete a graduate degree, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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