

## Graduate Education at UC Berkeley

January 2012

**Berkeley's graduate programs continue to be among the most attractive in the U.S. and the world. Our campus remains successful in recruiting and supporting the best students. Funding sources for graduate students — external fellowships, research grants, philanthropy, and central campus allocation — are robust and growing.**

**What sets Berkeley apart from peers and competitors is the breadth and depth of our graduate programs, student engagement and creativity, and outstanding professional development opportunities and outcomes.**

- **Berkeley is thriving and innovating despite decreases in state funding.**
  - Although state funding has declined by two-thirds since 2004 in inflation-adjusted dollars, **operating revenue has been steadily increasing** (from \$1.5B in 2004 to \$2.1B today). Other revenue sources have grown faster than state appropriations have declined.
  - **Research expenditures are increasing.** Berkeley's success in being awarded grants for research projects over the last four years has increased substantially in comparison with the previous six years: from ~\$443M in 2001-02 to more than \$717M in 2010-11. Research expenditures have increased in each of the last four years, totaling more than \$533M in 2010-11. Many grants support graduate students as research assistants and trainees.
  - **Philanthropic support is growing.** As of fall 2011, the Campaign for Berkeley has raised more than \$123M dedicated to graduate fellowships, plus ~\$55M of other new endowment for graduate support. This translates into approximately 173 new fellowships annually.
  - **Central campus funding for multi-year fellowships and for departmental financial support to graduate students has grown substantially.** Multi-year fellowship stipends increase each year to ensure continued competitiveness of funding offers to admitted students. Central campus allocations to departments for support of graduate students grow each year, so that enrolled students' support packages are protected from increases in graduate fees and tuition.
- **Berkeley is attracting more prospective students.** Applications to graduate programs continue to increase year to year, to more than 38,100 for the fall 2011 entering class — a 46% increase over the last decade.
- **More admitted students are choosing to enroll at Berkeley.** Acceptance rates on admission offers have steadily improved — from 49% a decade ago to 56% in 2011. Given that applicants to Berkeley often receive offers from three or more elite universities, this is strong testament to students' perception of Berkeley's excellence.
- **Berkeley's graduate student body is diverse and becoming more so.**
  - Berkeley awards more doctoral degrees to students from **groups historically underrepresented** in higher education than does any other member of the Association of American Universities. Of new graduate students who enrolled in fall 2011, 15% of U.S. citizens and permanent residents are from groups underrepresented in higher education.
  - 30% of incoming graduate students are from 49 states **outside California**; and another 25% are from 99 **other countries**.
  - **Women** are 46% of the incoming class; 56% of graduate majors now enroll either equal numbers of women as men or more women than men.
  - Berkeley is a recognized leader in analyzing the "leaky pipeline" for women graduate students, particularly in STEM fields, and has led in designing **family-friendly policies** for female and male graduate student parents and faculty, which have now been adopted at universities and institutions (including the National Science Foundation) across the nation.
- **Berkeley students — and Berkeley-bound applicants — are highly successful in winning prestigious external fellowships.** Berkeley has been the first choice institution of **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship** recipients for the past decade and has produced more **Ford Foundation Diversity Fellows** than

any other university since 1986. Berkeley continues to be unsurpassed in enrolling students holding **U.S. Department of Energy Fellowships** and **Environmental Protection Agency's STAR Fellowships**, and we are at or near the top in receipt of Javits Fellowships. Our campus is consistently among the top producers of **Fulbright Fellows**.

- **Berkeley faculty recognize and appreciate the indispensable role of our graduate students.** A recent faculty climate survey showed that faculty rated the quality of graduate students as the most important contributor to their university work. The quality of Berkeley's graduate students ranked a close second as the most satisfying element of faculty life.
- **Berkeley faculty take pride in mentoring our graduate students.** Faculty involvement in graduate student mentoring — academic, personal, and professional — is core to our educational mission. The importance of graduate student mentoring has been codified in a new set of guidelines as a component of faculty performance reviews. The enthusiasm of students and alumni submitting numerous nominations of senior and junior faculty for the **Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Mentoring Awards** and the **Graduate Assembly's Faculty Mentoring Awards** provides graphic testament to outstanding faculty mentoring on our campus.
- **Discipline-specific career preparation is tailored by every department and augmented by central campus programs.**
  - Students aspiring to academic careers develop teaching skills in the classroom through internationally acclaimed professional development programs designed by the award-winning **Graduate Student Instructor Teaching & Resource Center**, which offers mentoring and preparation throughout the year and **Summer Institutes for Future Faculty** annually to doctoral candidates across all disciplines.
  - **Ph.D. advisors in Berkeley's Career Center** provide career counseling to all graduate students, whether for academic/research careers or other professional options. Additional training and networking opportunities are offered to graduate students and doctoral recipients by the **Postdoc Industry Exploration Program** and the **Berkeley Postdoc Entrepreneur Program**.
- **Berkeley students are deeply engaged in interdisciplinary innovation** that drives some of the most active student organizations on our campus today and many of the new institutes and degree programs.
  - **The Townsend Center for the Humanities** sponsors more than **50 interdisciplinary working groups** for graduate students interested in exploring areas as diverse as Visual Cultures, New Media, and Urban Political Economies.
  - Students conduct research in more than **80 organized research units** across a wide range of fields, such as the Cancer Research Laboratory, Center for Race & Gender, Space Sciences Laboratory, Institute of East Asian Studies, Institute of Cognitive & Brain Sciences, and Center for Morality, Law & Public Affairs
  - **The Berkeley Energy and Resources Collaborative** and the **Berkeley Nanotechnology Club** are two examples of graduate student-run groups that bring together people from across the campus — in the sciences, business, law, and policy — to share knowledge and entrepreneurial opportunities.
- **National and international rankings of graduate programs continue to place Berkeley among the very best.**
  - The **National Research Council's** 2010 rankings of doctoral programs gave Berkeley the largest number of highly rated graduate programs of all U.S. universities. Berkeley had the most programs (48) with rankings that range into the **top ten**; the most programs (40) with ranges extending into the **top five**; and the second-most (16, compared to Harvard's 19) with an upper range of **first place**.
  - The **2011 Academic Ranking of World Universities** (Shanghai Jiao Tong University) rated Berkeley **fourth of all universities** in the world and the best of all public universities anywhere.
- **Berkeley's graduate alumni are highly accomplished.**
  - Among them are 20 **Nobel Prize winners**; 30 recipients of the **National Medal of Science**; and 37 winners of **MacArthur Fellowships**.
  - Among all of Berkeley's Ph.D. recipients who chose **careers in academia** between 2007 and 2009, over 80% secured tenure-track faculty positions or postdoctoral research appointments when polled 12 to 18 months after graduation.
  - Berkeley was recently named among the three universities in the U.S. with the largest number of graduates who are **executives in companies that filed for an IPO** in the first half of 2011.