

Thursday, October 4, 2012
Chambers Hall Gymnasium

9th annual
Graduate &
Professional
School Fair



University of Pittsburgh
at Greensburg

CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

The School of Graduate Studies and Research at California University of Pennsylvania offers students Master's degrees that are both career-driven and academically rigorous, and builds upon the rich undergraduate experiences at Cal U and many other outstanding universities throughout the world.

We offer flexible graduate programs making it easier for you to balance life's challenges while furthering your career. With our "traditional" classroom-based programs, blended classroom and online classes and 100% online options, there is an option to fit your busy schedule.

Master of Arts:

- Social Science-Applied Criminology-**100% online**
- Social Science-Forensic Linguistics-**100% online**

Master of Arts Teaching

- Advanced Secondary Studies-**100% online**
- Secondary Education-Initial Teacher Certification

Master of Science in Nursing:

- Nursing Administration and Leadership-**100% online**

Master of Science:

- Athletic Training
- Business Administration
- Communication Disorders
- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Exercise Science and Health Promotion-**100% online**
- Legal Studies-**100% online**
- School Psychology
- Sports Management-**100% online**

Master of Social Work:

- Social Work

Master of Education:

- Administration Program for Principals-School Administration-Principal Certification (K-12)-**100% online**
- Elementary Education
- Elementary Education-**100% online** (For certified teachers seeking additional certification)
- Mentally/Physically Handicapped
- Reading Specialist
- School Counseling
- Technology Education-**100% online**

Certificate Programs:

- Superintendent Letter of Eligibility-**100% online**
- Autism Spectrum Disorders-**100% online**
- Spanish for Law Enforcement-**100% online**
- Spanish for Business-**100% online**
- Sports Counseling-**100% online**
- Arabic Language and Cultures-**100% online**

CARLOW UNIVERSITY
Graduate School Degrees and Programs

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

School of Nursing

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

School for Social Change

Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) in Counseling Psychology (*APA-accredited*)

MASTER'S PROGRAMS

School of Education

Master of Education (MEd)

- Art Education (advanced program for practicing teachers and instructors)
- Early Childhood Education (advanced program for practicing teachers and instructors)
- Early Childhood Supervision *with supervisor certification option*

M.Ed. with PA certification options:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Art Education
(initial teacher certification K-12)➤ Early Childhood Education
(initial teacher certification PreK-Gr 4)➤ Middle Level (Gr 4-8) in specific content areas
(Available Fall 2013)➤ Instructional Technology Specialist
(certified teachers only) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Secondary Education (Gr 7-12) in specific content areas➤ Special Education (PreK-8)
(early or middle level certification)➤ Special Education (Gr 7-12)
(secondary certification required) |
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Division of Humanities

Master of Fine Arts (MFA)

- Creative Writing/Fiction
- Creative Writing/Nonfiction
- Creative Writing/Poetry

School of Management

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

- Business Administration Track
- Technology Management Track
- Innovation Track

Master of Science (MS)

- Fraud and Forensics

School of Nursing

Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nursing/Education and Leadership

School for Social Change

Master of Science (MS)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professional Counseling<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Addictions Track➤ Adult/Generalist Track➤ Child and Family Track | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ School Counseling Track➤ 48 Credit Track |
|---|---|

Carlow-Issued Certificates

- Alcohol and Drug Counseling Certificate
- Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate (post-masters)
- School Counseling Certificate

Graduate Admissions

Carlow University
3333 Fifth Avenue
Antonian Hall, Third Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Toll-free: 800-333-CARLOW
(2275)

Phone: 412-578-6059

E-mail: gradstudies@carlow.edu

CHATHAM UNIVERSITY

Chatham University's historic Shadyside Campus, founded in 1869, is located in the heart of Pittsburgh, PA, on a designated urban arboretum within walking distance of some of the city's most vibrant neighborhoods. With accelerated bachelor's and graduate programs, residential and low-residency degree programs, and comprehensive online programming, Chatham students can balance their personal lives while continuing their education. Preparing students from around the world, Chatham's enrollment throughout the past decade was the fastest growing in the region. In 2008, Chatham became the largest University in Allegheny County with the addition of its Eastside facility in East Liberty and the 388-acre Eden Hall Campus in Pine-Richland, the future home of the School of Sustainability and the Environment, which will be a place of learning, research, and practicing sustainable behaviors that can be replicated elsewhere to make the world a better place.

Consistently ranked among the top master's level institutions in the Northeast by U.S. News and World Report and the Princeton Review, Chatham's College for Graduate Studies and College for Continuing and Professional Studies offers co-educational post-baccalaureate, graduate, and doctoral programs. Integrating strong community partnerships and innovative programming in such burgeoning fields as sustainability and the health sciences, Chatham programs are designed to meet the needs of tomorrow's economy.

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY School of Graduate Studies

Over 133 years, Duquesne University has grown to 10 schools offering degree programs at the baccalaureate, professional, masters and doctoral levels. More than 75 graduate and professional programs in the arts, sciences, music, business, nursing, pharmacy, health sciences, education, leadership and law attract over 4,000 students from around the world to Duquesne. Students attain a first-rate education, building close relationships with professors and participating in exciting research projects and internships.

As a student, you'll learn and network with a peer-learning group of others seeking to fulfill their goals of obtaining a graduate education. When you graduate, you'll join more than 81,000 alumni working in every field, across the country and around the world.

Duquesne University is a top tier university among 1,600 American Institutions surveyed by *US News and World Report* for 2012. It is tied among the top 10 Catholic universities in the nation and is listed among the top seven schools in Pennsylvania. It is number 43 on the *U.S. News* 2012 Great Schools, Great Price list. Duquesne is included in the 2012 Princeton Review's *The Best 376 Colleges*, which profiles only 15 percent of American and Canadian colleges. www.duq.edu/graduate-studies.

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY

Established as a private academy in 1857, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania remains one of the region's leading educational institutions. Located in a resort community in northwestern Pennsylvania, it is recognized as one of the most attractive campuses in the Commonwealth.

Edinboro University is regionally accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and is a member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE). The University is also nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and all of its school personnel certification programs are approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE).

Edinboro University's School of Graduate Studies and Research offers a broad range of high quality educational programs, including 16 master's degrees; post baccalaureate teacher certification in 24 content areas; and a range of post master's programs leading to certification and/or licensure. In addition to its traditional campus-based offerings, Edinboro University also provides its students with access to an impressive range of accredited online programs.

Edinboro University's School of Graduate Studies and Research can be reached toll free at 1-888-845-2890 or online at <http://gradschool.edinboro.edu>.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Frostburg State University offers a wide range of quality graduate programs that fit any lifestyle. Whether you're a recent undergraduate continuing on to the next level of your academic journey or a working professional looking to advance or secure your current career or searching for a new career path altogether, FSU's graduate programs are designed to accommodate your individual schedules and goals. FSU has one doctoral and 17 master's degrees from which to choose for career advancement or change.

INDIANA TECH LAW SCHOOL

Indiana Tech Law School's curriculum reflects the very best thinking about legal education. Collaborative and experiential learning will serve as cornerstones and you will be challenged to hone your lawyering skills from day one in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, ethics and professionalism courses in the first year of law school, mandatory *pro bono* activities, and experiential learning opportunities in many classes.

From the very first day of orientation, you will experience a new and exciting learning environment. We aim to bring you the very best practices in legal education today, taught by dynamic, innovative faculty. You will learn legal history, philosophy, and theory-just as students at other law schools will do-but you will also learn how judges and lawyers apply those lessons to the practice of law and to finding solutions to people's problems. You will study professionalism and ethics beginning in your first semester and you will discover that Indiana Tech Law School is a place where theory and practice are equals in the classroom so that you are better prepared for the world beyond law school.

After the first year, you may choose to enroll in a wide variety of electives. You may choose a general, traditional curriculum or you may decide to focus on your upper-level course work. You will have four "concentrations"-Advocacy and Dispute Resolution, Global Law and Leadership, Intellectual Property/Transactional Law, and Transactional Law-from which you may choose if you would like to focus your education in a particular area of the law. Students who choose a concentration must also participate in either a clinic or in a "Semester-in-Practice."

Our brand new 70,000 square foot facility will open in the summer of 2013 and members of the charter class will be among its very first inhabitants. A state-of-the art moot courtroom, law library, in-house legal clinic, and abundant study spaces are just some of the features of our facility which will be conveniently located on the west (downtown facing) side of Indiana Tech's campus. The main entrances to the law library and the legal clinic, as well as the administrative office suite, are found on the first floor. The clinic will be paperless and client interview rooms will include closed-circuit cameras to allow the law student clinician and client to interact under the remote supervision of staff attorneys, thus permitting a more natural attorney-client relationship to develop. The second floor will house the student lounge, including tables and chairs for study, and arm chairs and sofas for relaxing, along with a television for you to enjoy when you take a break. The second and third floors will both be homes to faculty offices, classrooms and additional floors of the library. Located at various spaces throughout the building you will find soft seating areas designed to encourage faculty and student interaction outside the classroom. Nine small and large group study areas dot our building, including seven rooms on the perimeter of the top floor of the cylinder, which will offer sun-filled study environments and expansive views of the city.

KAPLAN TEST PREP

Are you thinking about applying for graduate school and need a great score on the test required to be accepted? Kaplan Test Prep offers on-site and online classes to prep for the MCAT, LSAT, GMAT, GRE, OAT, DAT, and PCAT. The acceptance rate to graduate school programs for students that prep with Kaplan are much higher than all other test prep companies combined, and we have a higher score guarantee! Stop by today for more information about how we can help you get into the graduate school of your choice and to register our annual FREE Practice Test.

MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

Marymount University is an independent Catholic university that emphasizes academic excellence at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Committed to the liberal arts tradition, the University combines a foundation in the arts and sciences with career preparation and opportunities for personal and professional development. Marymount is a student-centered learning community that values diversity and focuses on the education of the whole person, promoting the intellectual, spiritual, and moral growth of each individual. Scholarship, leadership, service and ethics are hallmarks of a Marymount education.

Founded in 1950 by the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Marymount is a comprehensive, coeducational Catholic university located just minutes from the nation's capital.

Marymount is dedicated to academic excellence. Our faculty are scholars and practitioners in a wide array of fields; but above all else, they are committed to excellence in the classroom. They join with our staff and administration in making this commitment: At Marymount University, students come first.

MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY (cont'd)

Marymount's academic programs combine a strong liberal arts foundation with solid career preparation. Ethics and values are emphasized here, as is service to others. Marymount's mission is to educate the whole person, preparing students to achieve personal and professional success.

Marymount offers a close-knit academic community located on a serene 21-acre campus, yet we are just minutes from downtown Washington, D.C. The entire metropolitan area will serve as your living, learning laboratory. Marymount students intern at places like Capitol Hill, the Smithsonian, high tech companies, major health care institutions, and more. And when classes are done, there's plenty to do on and off campus. Remember you have Washington's resources at your disposal for entertainment, culture, and pure enjoyment!

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY DICKINSON SCHOOL OF LAW

Signature facilities, exciting new clinics, and a top notch faculty at Penn State University Dickinson School of Law prepare students to engage in a lifetime of advocacy, counseling, and service on both the national and international stages. Penn State Law was formed from a merger of one of the world's great research institutions, Penn State University and the Dickinson School of Law, founded in 1834.

PITTSBURGH INSTITUTE OF MORTUARY SCIENCE (PIMS)

www.pims.edu

PIMS is one of the premier heritage funeral service educational institutions in the country. The Institute offers 3 different programs, in-residence, which vary from 3-5 trimesters in length and 4 different bachelor degree options in cooperation with colleges and universities. **PIMS OnLine** is a distance education alternative which was implemented in 2001 and enables the student to pursue professional education in the comfort of home or office via the Internet.

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

Master of Arts

- Clinical-Community Psychology (New in Fall 2013)
- Communication Technology (New in Fall 2013)
- Curriculum and Instruction: Four concentrations in Adult Learning and Training; ESL Concentration; PA Certification for Supervisor in Curriculum and Instruction; and a General Concentration
- Educational Administration
- Journalism and Mass Communication
- Organizational Leadership

Master of Business Administration

- M.B.A. With tracks in Management; International Business; Management Information Systems; Sport, Arts, Entertainment Management; and Health Systems Management

Master of Education

- Secondary Education Leading to PA Certification in Grades 7-12
- Special Education Leading to PA Certification
- Teaching and Leadership

Master of Fine Arts

- Acting (Next incoming class: Fall 2014)

Master of Science

- Criminal Justice Administration
- Engineering Management
- Environmental Studies

Concurrent Program

- Master of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication and Master of Business Administration; Feature Story-M.A./M.B.A. Program aims to give working professionals an edge

Post-Baccalaureate Certificates

- Adult Education and Administration Certificate (Completed totally online)
- English as a Second Language Program Specialist Certificate
- School Principal Certificate

ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY

Robert Morris University offers over 20 graduate and doctoral programs of study in Business, Education, Communications and Information Systems, Engineering and Nursing. Programs of study are offered on ground, online or a combination of both.

ROBERTS WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Graduate Programs offered at Roberts Wesleyan College: Master of Science in Health Administration, Master of Science in Strategic Leadership, Master of Science in Strategic Marketing, Master of Music Education, Master of Science in Nursing Education, Master of School Counseling, Master of School Psychology, Master of Social Work, Master of Education, Master of Arts in Theological Studies and Master of Divinity.

SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY-SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Saint Francis University is a private, coeducational liberal arts university sponsored by the Franciscans of the Third Order Regular located approximately 90 miles east of Pittsburgh. Founded in 1847, Saint Francis University is the oldest Franciscan college in the United States and one of the first Catholic colleges established in this country. Saint Francis University offers higher education in an environment guided by Catholic values and teachings, and inspired by the example of our patron Saint Francis of Assisi. Saint Francis places particular emphasis on developing individuals who will lead or serve with character and values in their chosen professions and communities.

All of our degree programs have been accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and appropriate professional accrediting bodies. For more information on our programs, prerequisite coursework, or the admission process, visit our website www.francis.edu.

DEGREES:

Doctor of Physical Therapy: Students are prepared as competent, ethical, caring doctors of physical therapy who practice autonomously, at an entry-level, in a complex healthcare environment, and who demonstrate critical thinking, embrace lifelong learning and use an evidence based approach to patient care. Eligible students holding an earned baccalaureate degree with the necessary prerequisite coursework may be admitted to this three-year program based on availability.

Master of Health Science: A 30-credit online graduate program designed for professionals in the healthcare setting who hold a baccalaureate degree and wish to pursue graduate education in a flexible, online format. This program prepares students to take on leadership roles in the healthcare industry. Most full-time employed students can complete the program in a two-year period.

Master of Medical Science: A 30-credit online graduate program open to students within affiliated physician assistant programs and provides them the opportunity to obtain a master's degree concurrently with their clinical clerkship experiences.

Master of Occupational Therapy: Eligible students holding an earned baccalaureate degree with the necessary prerequisite coursework may be admitted to this two-year program based on space availability. The uniquely designed courses totally immerse the student in occupational therapy with recurring modules of the OT process, fieldwork, research, technology, management/leadership, ethics, personal goal development, and resume writing to reinforce professional behaviors.

Master of Physician Assistant: Since 1977, the SFU MPAS program has provided its students with challenging curriculum that combines specialized coursework and practical professional application. Eligible students holding an earned baccalaureate degree with the necessary prerequisite coursework may be admitted to this two-year program based on space availability. Ranked in the top 20% of all master's granting PA programs in the country but U.S. News and World Report.

SETON HILL UNIVERSITY

A Seton Hill education is distinctive, specialized, and stimulating. Our approach to graduate study builds confidence, fosters a sense of community, and prepares students to make real world contributions. Seton Hill University provides its students with a rich environment for both personal and professional development. Graduate programs of study at Seton Hill University are student friendly and learner focused, offering work-aware scheduling, financial aid, scholarships and manageable tuition. Whether you are an experienced professional or a recent college graduate, a graduate degree from our accredited university will put you in charge of your professional future.

Seton Hill University offers opportunities to pursue advanced degrees and certificates in a number of areas:

- Art Therapy with specialization in counseling
- Autism (Certificate)
- Elementary/Middle Level Education
- Entrepreneurship (Certificate)
- Genocide and Holocaust Studies (Certificate)
- Inclusive Education
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Orthodontics (Certificate)
- Physician Assistant
- Special Education
- Writing Popular Fiction (MFA)

SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY

Shippensburg University's primary focus is to provide an excellent education to all of our students. Faculty members with strong knowledge of their disciplines and a commitment to teaching conduct all our classes. Our programs, many nationally accredited, allow students to develop the skills they need to succeed. **Master's Degree Programs:** Administration of Justice, Applied History, Biology, Business Administration, Communication Studies, Computer Science, Counseling, Curriculum and Instruction, Geoenvironmental Studies, Organizational Development and Leadership, Psychological Science, Public Administration, Reading, School Administration, Social Work, Special Education. **Certificate Programs:** *Post Bachelor's*-Advanced Studies in Business and Applied History. *Post-Graduate*-Marital, Couples, and Family Therapy and Management Information Systems. *Post-Master's Certification Programs*-Principal's Certification, Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility, and Supervisory Certificate I.

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY

Adapted Physical Activity (Fall or Spring Start Only)

- Adapted Physical Activity (M.S.)

Counseling and Development (Fall Start Only)

- Community Counseling (M.A.)-Addiction
- Community Counseling (M.A.)-Adult
- Community Counseling (M.A.)-Aging
- Community Counseling (M.A.)-Child and Adolescent
- School Counseling (M.Ed.)
- Student Affairs in Higher Education (M.A.)
- School Counseling Endorsement (Certificate)
- Community Counseling Endorsement (Certificate)
- Student Affairs in Higher Education Endorsement (Certificate)

Criminology, Criminal Justice

- Criminal Justice (M.A.)-Exclusively Online

Elementary Education

- Reading (M.Ed.)
- Reading Certification (Non-Degree)
- K-8 Math and Science (M.Ed.)-Exclusively Online
- Instructional Coaching-Literacy Emphasis (Certificate Only)

Nursing

- School Nurse Certification Program (Non-Degree)-Online

Park and Recreation (Fall and Spring Start Only)/Environmental Recreation

- Park and Resource Management (M.S.)-Campus or Online
- Environmental Education (M.Ed.)-Campus or Online

Physical Therapy (Fall Start Only)

- Doctor of Physical Therapy

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY (cont'd)

Secondary Education

- [Mathematics and Science \(M.Ed.\)](#)
- [English \(M.Ed.\)](#)
- [History \(M.Ed.\)](#)
- [Educational Leadership \(M.Ed.\)](#)

Special Education (All Programs Offered Exclusively Online)

- [Autism Emphasis \(M.Ed.\)](#)
- [Master Teacher \(M.Ed.\)](#) (if graduating by 2013)
- [Master Teacher Birth to Grade 8 \(M.Ed.\)](#) (if graduating after 2013)
- [Master Teacher Grade 7 to Grade 12 \(M.Ed.\)](#) (if graduating after 2013)
- [Mentally and Physically Handicapped Certification \(Non-Degree\)](#)
- [School Supervision \(M.Ed.\)](#)
- [School Supervision Post-Masters Certification \(Non-Degree\)](#)

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

GSPIA's mission is to prepare leaders with the skills, vision and knowledge to build a better world. Founded on and committed to the values of public service, diversity and excellence, GSPIA provides preeminent research and educational programs in public and international affairs. Believing in our ability to make the world a better place, GSPIA hones the passion of its students into purposeful direction and action. As part of the University of Pittsburgh, we're a leader in education and a pioneer in research. Through dedication to quality teaching that builds skills and commitments to core values, GSPIA students work to improve public and nonprofit organizations that contribute to free and just societies in the United States and abroad. To accomplish these goals, GSPIA teaches, conducts research, and performs public service in the following areas: Management and administration of public and nonprofit agencies; Growth and sustainable development of urban metropolitan regions throughout the world; Economic and social development of newly independent and developing states; Emerging dynamics that are shaping today's international political economy; Threats to and issues in international security.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business

At Katz, we believe two things to be universally true: Business never stops reinventing itself, and neither should you. As a global, AACSB-accredited institution, we offer MBA, Executive MBA, PhD, and Master of Accounting programs that are continually ranked among the world's best by independent publications. Led by our world-renowned faculty, our curriculum incorporates their groundbreaking research, entrepreneurial spirit, and emphasis on experience-based learning. As part of the University of Pittsburgh, our students and faculty enjoy and abundance of opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration. Our leadership network spans the globe: 23,000 Katz alumni live in more than 90 countries. Through our Career Management Center, we build partnerships with leading companies and assist students in realizing their full career potential. We consider the City of Pittsburgh as more than our address; it defines us, as we share its spirit of resiliency and collaboration. Established in 1960, but with history dating to 1907, Katz is the first school to offer a one-year MBA (1963) and among the first to offer an Executive MBA (1972). We believe that success favors the agile, which is why we immerse students in real-world experiences so they graduate ready to build, lead, and contribute immediately. Are you ready? You can be.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS), located on the Pittsburgh campus, offers upper division undergraduate programs in Athletic Training, Clinical Dietetics and Nutrition, Communication Science, Emergency Medicine, Health Information Management, and Rehabilitation Science.

Graduate Offerings include: Coordinated Masters in Dietetics, Master of Occupational Therapy, Doctor of Physical Therapy, MA/MS in Communication Science Disorders (Speech Language Pathology and Audiology), MS/HRS concentrations in Healthcare Supervision and Management, Health Information Management, Prosthetics and Orthotics, Rehabilitation Counseling, Rehabilitation Science and Technology, Sports Medicine, Wellness and Human Performance. Visit www.shrs.pitt.edu for more information or e-mail admissions@shrs.pitt.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
School of Information Sciences

For over a century, the iSchool has educated students to become leaders in the information professions. They may work in libraries and archives, companies and manufacturing industries, or governments and nonprofits. They may work with books, artifacts, digital documents, routers, networks, or databases. They solve problems in the boardroom, the operating room, or the schoolroom. They have a set of skills and the theoretical knowledge to harness the power of this influential resource, information.

The iSchool's undergraduate degree program will give you the theoretical and practical knowledge and skills to manage today's information systems and design the technologies that will be part of our future. Students will gain the knowledge and skills to build information systems, design user interfaces, and provide security in the digital environment. Our program is designed, based on input from corporate leaders and alumni, to provide a strong base of knowledge in programming principles, database systems, networks, systems analysis, and human-computer interaction.

The Graduate Information Science and Technology Program is designed to provide students with theoretical foundations and advanced knowledge in storing and retrieving information, communicating information among systems, and understanding the interaction between people and information systems as well as the role of information systems and technologies in both business and society. Specializations in this program include geoinformatics, human-centered computing, information assurance, database and Web systems, and distributed systems.

The Telecommunications and Networking graduate degree program provides in-depth knowledge of more than just technology—it helps students to understand the people and institutions who will utilize and benefit from that technology. The curriculum incorporates courses in network design and management, systems and wireless systems, mobile devices and applications, and network security. This course of study features hands-on laboratory and research experiences.

Our Library and Information Science Program offers a PhD and MLIS degree program: the MLIS program accredited by the American Library Association and ranked highly by **U.S. News and World Report**. The core curriculum will prepare students for careers as librarians, information and knowledge managers, archivists and record managers, and digital-content managers. Specializations include archives, preservation, records management; school library certification; information technology; and resources and services for children and youth, reference, and medical librarianship.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
School of Law

The University of Pittsburgh School of Law (Pitt Law) founded in 1895, is a leader in the world of legal education. It features a broad and varied curriculum, an internationally accomplished faculty, state of the art physical facilities, and a talented and diverse student body hailing from all over the globe. Pitt Law is located in its own six-story building on campus in Oakland, the cultural and educational center of Pittsburgh. State and federal courts, major corporate headquarters, and hundreds of law firms are located nearby in downtown Pittsburgh, only minutes from campus. The dynamic Oakland area is home to four colleges and universities, the world-renowned, multi-hospital University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, numerous scientific and high-tech offices and research centers, museums, art galleries, coffee houses, and libraries. The Pitt campus abuts a beautiful 429-acre city park.

Degree Offered: Jurist Doctor, J.D.

Curricular Options:

Clinical Programs within the J.D.- Including a Tax Clinic; an Environmental Law Clinic; a Civil Practice Clinic that selects a focus on either Health Law, Elder Law, or Family Law and Related Matters; and a Community Economic Development Clinic.

Certificate Programs within the J.D.- A collection of sharply focused courses that culminate in certification to specialize in a high-demand area of practice such as civil litigation; environmental law; science, and policy; health law; international and comparative law; and intellectual.

Joint-degree Programs- Including a JD/MBA; a JD/MPH; a JD/MPA; a JD/MPIA and a JD/MID with our Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; JD/MA (Bioethics); a JD/MSW (Social Work); and a JD/MS with the Heinz School at Carnegie Mellon University.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
School of Social Work

The University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is one of the nation's top ranked schools of social work. Established in 1934, the school is a recognized leader in social work education, research and administration. The MSW program uses the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pittsburgh regions as laboratories for students to apply theories to real life situations. We offer full and part time programs. The MSW program is designed to provide students with a professional education that includes breadth and depth in social work knowledge and skill development. Two areas of specialization are offered. The first is Direct Practice with Individuals Families and Groups. The second is Community Organization and Social Administration. In addition, the School offers an advanced standing programs for applicants who possess an undergraduate degree in social work. There are dual degree opportunities with the School of Law, Graduate School of Public Health and the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. For more information, please visit the School's website at www.socialwork.pitt.edu.

WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY

Waynesburg University's Graduate and Professional Studies programs provide doctoral, graduate, and undergraduate programs for adult students at four convenient locations: Southpointe, Monroeville, Seven Fields, and Waynesburg. Known for its friendly yet rigorous academic atmosphere in the areas of nursing, business, education and counseling, the Waynesburg University Graduate and Professional Studies Program may be the opportunity you are looking for to continue your education.

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

The College of Law, established in 1878, is the oldest professional school at West Virginia University. The university is located in Morgantown, West Virginia. Within a 500-mile radius of Morgantown is half of the population of the United States and one-third of the population of Canada. The College of Law has been a member of the AALS since 1914 and was fully accredited by the ABA in 1923. The college has had a chapter of the Order of the Coif since 1925.

With an 11-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio, students benefit from a well-rounded curriculum with strengths in Public Interest Law and Energy and Environmental Law. WVU Law offers many experiential opportunities for students through the following clinical opportunities: a General Civil Practice Clinic, Child and Family Law Clinic, Entrepreneurship Law Clinic, Human Rights and Immigration Law Clinic, Low Income Tax Clinic, Land Use and Sustainability Clinic, the Innocence Project, and the United States Supreme Court Clinic. Students also receive hands-on support from the Academic Excellence Program, Professional Writing Center, and Meredith Career Services Center all located within the WVU Law Center. For more information, please visit www.law.wvu.edu.

WIDENER UNIVERISTY SCHOOL OF LAW

Widener University is a metropolitan university that connects curricula to social issues through civic engagement. The School of Law is fully accredited by the American bar Association and holds memberships in the Association of American Law Schools. Widener provides an all-around comprehensive legal education program with special certificates available from its Health Law Institute, which is consistently ranked among the top 10 in the nation, the Law and Government Institute, Trial Advocacy Institute, and Institute of Delaware Corporation Law. Widener Law has two locations: the Wilmington, DE campus, which opened in 1971, and the Harrisburg, PA campus, which opened in 1989.

WILKES UNIVERSITY

Wilkes is a small, private university located in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Our master's level graduate programs include Bioengineering, Business Administration, Creative Writing, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Management, Mechanical Engineering, Mathematics, Nursing, and Education.

Graduate Education programs include 21st Century Teaching and Learning, Art and Science of Teaching, Educational Development and Strategies, Classroom Technology, Early Childhood Literacy, Educational Leadership with Principal Certification, Instructional Media, International School Leadership, Middle Level Education, Online Teaching, Reading, Special w/PA Reading Specialist Certification, School Business Leadership, and Teaching English as a Second Language. Please check our website at www.wilkes.edu/graded to see which programs are available face-to-face and or online.

Wilkes also has doctoral programs in Education (Ed.D.), Nursing (DNP), and Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Youngstown State University is an urban research university, which emphasizes a creative, integrated approach to education, scholarship, and service. The University places students at its center; leads in the discovery, dissemination, and application of knowledge; advances civic, scientific, and technological development; and fosters collaboration to enrich the region and the world.

Located in northeast Ohio, Youngstown State University offers a wealth of activities, events and services to students. With just over 14,000 students and an average class size of 25, Youngstown State University presents 35 master's and doctorate programs as well as easily accessible and dedicated faculty. Additionally, Youngstown State University offers internship and research opportunities at graduate levels.

Preparing for Graduate School

This handout is a compilation of information that will assist you in researching, applying, and getting accepted to the graduate or professional school of your choice. Keep in mind that each program is different and an early start is important.

If you are starting late or if you are not sure about your next step, taking a year or two off to earn money and obtain more experience may be the best plan for you. It may even make you more marketable to a graduate school. Going to graduate school directly after completing your undergraduate education is not for everyone.

Should I go to graduate school?

YES...

- ...if your career goals require an advanced degree.
- ...if you want to study a specialty within a career field.
- ...if you seek a better job in your field.

NO...

- ...if you are avoiding the job market.
- ...if you plan on using it to explore a career field.
- ...if it is what someone else expects you to do.

In other words, go to graduate school if you have an academic, intellectual, or occupational *reason* to do so.

Should I go right away, work for a while, or combine the two?

- Going to graduate school immediately gives you academic momentum and you will be used to living without a regular paycheck. If your career goals require an advanced degree, then there is no need to delay.
- Getting a job may get you the experience you need to add meaning and clarity to the degree program, pay off some bills and eventually result in a higher starting wage as some companies prefer an advanced degree and work experience.
- Combining graduate school and working can take longer to get a degree, so consider whether a few years will make a difference. However, employment can add a deeper understanding of the education if you work in the field that you are studying.

What are the basic steps for the Graduate School Application Process?

- Read the guide “**Researching Graduate School: Basic Stages of the Process**” in this handout.

When should I apply to graduate school?

This timetable is suggested by *Peterson's Annual Guides to Graduate Study* and represents the ideal for most students. However, requirements vary by school and should be noted. (*)

Junior Year - Fall and Spring

- Research institutions offering graduate programs in your area of interest.
- Talk to your academic advisor about graduate school in general, and ask for advice on programs to research.
- Narrow your selection to two or three institutions.
- Investigate national and local scholarships

Junior Year - Summer

- Find out which admission exams are required and pick up test bulletins. Take required admissions tests.
- Request the school catalog, application materials, and financial aid information online or by telephone.
- Write to the prospective department for additional information regarding graduate assistantships offered by the university. Pay close attention to application deadlines.
- Visit the institutions of interest.
- Check on application deadlines and rolling admissions procedures.
- Begin to prepare your application forms and write your application essay.
- For medical, dental, osteopathy, podiatry, or law school, you may need to register for the national application or data assembly service most programs use.

Senior Year - Fall

- Obtain letters of recommendation.
- Take graduate admissions tests if you haven't already.
- Send in completed applications and other required materials by the deadline to both the Graduate Admissions Office and the prospective department.
- Send a deposit to your institution of choice.
- Register for the Graduate and Professional Financial Aid Service (GAPSFAS) or the Financial Aid Form (FAF), if required.

Senior Year - Spring

- Check with all institutions before the deadline to make sure your application file is complete and all supporting materials have been received.
- Prepare for a visit and interview with institutions that have an interest in you.
- Notify other colleges and universities that accepted you of your acceptance to a program, so they may admit students on their waiting list.
- Send thank you notes to people who wrote your recommendation letters, informing them of your success.

* You may not be able to adhere to this timetable if your application deadlines are very early, as in the case of medical schools, or if you decided to attend graduate school at the last minute. In any case, keep in mind the various application requirements and be sure to meet all deadlines. If deadlines are impossible to meet, call the institution to determine if a late application will be considered. You may get lucky.

What will I need to provide with my application?

Are you getting ready to apply to graduate or professional school and wondering what you will need to provide? According to the College Board, you may be asked for any or all of the following:

Application fee

- Most colleges and universities charge a non-refundable application fee.
- Many will waive the fee for applicants from low-income families.
- Check with each individual school.

Application form

- Almost all institutions will require an official application form that provides information about your background, previous education, and graduate school plans.

College transcripts

- You will probably be required to supply the institution with a copy of your undergraduate academic transcript.
- Requests for transcripts may be made at the Registrar's Office or in Academic Records.

Admissions test scores

- Many colleges require that you take one or more standardized admissions tests.
- Plan to take these tests several months before the application deadline to allow enough time to report the score to each college.

Letters of recommendation

- Most graduate schools require that you submit one or more letters of recommendation from a professor, advisor, counselor, alumnus, or adult member of the community.
- If possible, choose people who not only know you well, but who are also familiar with the graduate school you want to attend.
- Depending on the program, you may want to use faculty members as well as professionals in your field.
- Be sure to provide plenty of time for people to write these letters for you.
- Bring them the recommendation form, and a self-addressed stamped envelope if necessary. You may also want to supply your references with a copy of your resume or relevant coursework to help them write you an appropriate recommendation.

Personal essay

- Most institutions require a personal essay or autobiographical statement.
- The essay can be especially important if you are not able to have an interview.
- This is your chance to express personally your background, interests and goals, and why you are interested in this graduate field of study and the particular institution.
- Read the essay instructions carefully, paying careful attention to length limitations.
- Show the graduate school that you are articulate, realistic, and a competent writer. Be clear, concise and to the point.
- Grammar, punctuation, and spelling count, so be sure that your essay is perfect before you submit it with your application.
- View the guide to **Writing Personal Statements and Graduate/Professional School Essays** contained in this handout.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

The range of financial assistance available at the graduate level is very broad. There are three basic types of aid – grants and fellowships, work programs, and loans – and various sources – the federal government, state governments, educational institutions, foundations, corporations, and other private organizations such as professional associations.

Fellowships & Grants - An outright award of money (called a stipend) based on merit that requires no work or service in return. Competition is very keen. Ask each specific program that you are considering about these awards.

Teaching Assistantships - Usually a full or partial tuition remission and sometimes a stipend. Requires undergraduate teaching, lab supervision, proctoring exams, or grading papers depending on the level of the student.

Research Assistantships - Usually a full or partial tuition remission and sometimes a stipend. Similar to a teaching assistantship except the responsibility is to assist a faculty member in research efforts rather than teaching.

Administrative Assistantships - Work in an administrative office on campus as opposed to teaching or doing research. Usually a full or partial tuition remission or a stipend.

Residence Hall, Student Personnel, or Counseling Assistantships - This type of assistance is frequently given to Student Personnel, Counseling, Psychology, Higher Education, and Social Work graduate students. Sometimes include room, board and salary in addition to tuition remission.

GI Bill - Veterans can get assistance for graduate as well as undergraduate school.

Loans – Loans are offered through banks, government agencies and universities. Usually have lower interest rates.

Military - Can often get support for graduate and professional education in exchange for a commitment to future military service.

Employment - It is difficult to manage both full-time work and full-time graduate study. It may be wise to consider doing one or the other part-time, even if this means it will take longer to earn a degree. Find out whether a graduate co-op program is available; this can give you an income plus practical work experience in the field.

BEST SOURCES TO LEARN ABOUT GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Adapted from *Graduate Admissions Essays* by Donald Asher

Professors

This is your best source. Professors know you, they know which programs favor students from your school, they know the relative quality of graduate programs in their fields, and they even have personal friends at graduate programs where you might like to apply.

Other Students and Alumni

Alumni at graduate programs will give you the most honest information about the quality of the program and the faculty.

Peterson's Guides

Peterson's guides have every accredited program in the United States. They're a little dense and boring, but if you want to learn about programs there's no other complete resource. All major university libraries have a full set of Peterson's guides.

Specialty Guides

Find specialty guides for your field, for example, *Graduate Programs in Neurosciences*, by asking professors, using the subject search engine at amazon.com, or by using the subject search engine on CD from *Books in Print*, available from your university bookstore. Some associations also print guides to graduate programs. Find out about them by looking up the association's HQ phone number in the *Encyclopedia of Associations*; then just call them and ask them.

Academic Journals in Your Field

Top students should get grad school ideas directly from the academic journals. The best programs generate the best and the most articles, so look in the journals for writing and/or research that interest you. Then find out where the article writer teaches.

Research-Doctorate Programs in the United States

This is the best source for unbiased, multivariable analysis of graduate programs. It is the result of a National Research Council-funded study, limited to the top programs in 41 major subject areas.

Educational Rankings Annual

A compendium of data from other sources. Expensive, but can be very useful. Check your library.

The Gourman Report

Another "ranking" book, with methodologies that are never fully explicated. Can be useful.

The Business Magazine Rankings

Business magazines are in the business of selling business magazines. Their editors usually know less about higher education than they know about automobiles, which is not a lot. These "rankings" are not useful *per se*, but you can get ideas to investigate further.

World Wide Web (www)

Online data are voluminous but shallow, and can be downright misleading (for example, some sites list schools in order of having paid a subscription fee). Use the Web to investigate schools you're interested in, in this order: university-department-faculty-specific faculty member's research interests-his or her advisees (i.e., currently enrolled graduate students). Information on related labs and institutes might interest you more than the main department.

Grad Fairs

One of the only places to meet a lot of graduate professionals quickly, but don't fall in love on the first date! Check out other schools.

QUESTIONS TO ASK ANY GRADUATE PROGRAM

1. What do you teach here?
2. What is the largest and the most typical class size for a graduate class? Are classes restricted to graduate students or are undergraduates common in your graduate classes?
3. What would be the advantages and disadvantages of going to grad school immediately after completing the undergraduate program? The advantages and disadvantages of waiting a few years? The best use of the interim time?
4. What are the criteria and process for selecting teaching assistants, research assistants, and fellows?
5. I will probably need financial assistance. Can you tell me how most students fund their studies here?
6. Will I get to develop my own topics, or will I be expected to work on a professor's ongoing research?
7. What is the mean time to complete (a) class work, (b) research, (c) dissertation? (I.e., what is the mean time to complete the Ph.D.? Ask about the program as a whole, but perhaps more importantly, *by professor.*)
8. What is your attrition rate? Of those who don't finish, what are their reasons?
9. What kind of student thrives in your program?
10. How reliable is your financial support year to year? Is the first-year offer always sustained given attainment of academic goals?
11. What is the age, race, gender balance, ratio of married/single, and geographical origin of graduate students in the program? (In other words: Are there any other people like me?)
12. May I have some bibliographies of recent publications by faculty? Which professors have won awards and grants lately (and presumably need graduate assistants)? [Or do this on your own before the meeting!]
13. Can you tell me about your placement rates and types of jobs obtained by recent graduates? (*Avoid* relying on testimonials and anecdotal evidence.)
14. May I meet some currently enrolled students (in person or via phone or email)? (Be sure to ask about their research topics and *be sure to take notes on specific profs mentioned.*)
15. How can I be a strong candidate for a program like this?

Adapted from *Graduate Admissions Essays* by Donald Asher (Ten Speed Press, 2000)
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WRITING PERSONAL STATEMENTS AND GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL ESSAYS

INTRODUCTION

Writing a personal statement is often the most difficult part of the graduate/professional school application process. However, an essay or “personal statement” should always be submitted with your application, even if the school says it is optional. If your qualifications make you a borderline student at a school that makes a point of considering subjective factors in its admission decisions, then your personal statement could make a difference between acceptance and rejection.

Writing requirements vary widely. Some programs request only 1 or 2 paragraphs about why you want to pursue graduate study, while others require numerous specific essays. Since personal statements/essays can reveal your character more clearly than other application materials, they may provide evidence that you bring something to the distinctive to the field: unusual ability, background traits, experience, or a unique way of looking at the world. You won’t be admitted to a top school unless you distinguish yourself.

WHAT TO WRITE

Before writing anything, stop and consider what a reader might be looking for; the general directions or other parts of the application may give you some indication. A number of things may be evaluated, including:

- Expectations with regard to the program and career opportunities
- Writing ability
- Major area of interest
- Educational background
- Immediate and long-term goals
- Reasons for pursuing a graduate degree in a particular field and at a particular institution
- Maturity
- Personal uniqueness - what you would add to the diversity of the entering class

Some schools require specific essays, while others provide no direction at all. There are both advantages and disadvantages to vagueness. Since no specific topic is required, one can write about whatever will do the most good. The drawback of not having a precise topic is that you’ll have to choose your own topic. This choice will probably be difficult to make. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

Write about Yourself. Schools want to know about you, your talents and evidence that you will succeed academically and professionally.

Be Specific. Write about events and activities. Often the best essay topic is a description of some incident or activity which led you to your field of study.

Tell a Story. Stories can keep the attention of a tired reader.

Emphasize Your Uniqueness. An essay about a problem you solved or an obstacle you overcame is always appropriate. You could also find an interesting way to write about a feature of your personality or what you have learned about yourself and/or your field.

Don’t Choose a Topic that Makes You Seem Immature or of Questionable Character.

Avoid Talking about in the Abstract. This can sound like a personal ad or make you seem distant.

Avoid Negatives. A positive, attractive personality is hard to exhibit while dwelling on negatives. Focus on positives. Talk about what you learned, not why your grades were low.

Avoid Clichés. “I want to help people.” “The human body fascinates me.” “This career would be rewarding and challenging.”

Ultimately, an essay or personal statement for an application should be a clear, succinct statement showing that you have a definite sense of what you want to do and enthusiasm for the field of study you have chosen. Your essay should reflect the clarity, focus, and depth of your thinking.

HOW TO WRITE

You’ve done this before. Writing for graduate/professional school is no different than writing anything else, except that it may count more. You’ll need to organize and write several drafts, have the essay read and critiqued by others, and polish the grammar and rhetoric. The chief reason application essays are unpersuasive is that insufficient time is taken with them.

When beginning to write, set down all the information as fully as possible. You may outline the points you want to cover and then expand on them, or you can simply put your ideas down on paper as they come to you. Making an outline will likely lead to an organized essay, whereas writing spontaneously may yield a more inspired piece of writing. Don’t worry if the initial drafts are too long, the information will be pared down and refined. Now you are ready to organize the essay.

CATCH THE ATTENTION OF A BORED AND EXHAUSTED ADMISSIONS OFFICIAL BY WRITING A FORCEFUL FIRST SENTENCE. Then, use one of two main approaches for organizing an essay. Begin with specific details and progress to a general conclusion, or state some general first, and then describe the pieces of evidence that support it. Some essays fall more naturally into a deductive, or conclusion first, mode of organization, while others are more effective if told inductively, or detail first.

MORE TIPS

Before attempting to write the first sentence, construct an outline of your main ideas and themes. **If a specific question is asked make sure to address it.**

There is no need to list your honors, awards, and activities if these were specified elsewhere. However, feel free to highlight things like these in the context of your essay.

Without required specificity, the best advice for writing a personal statement is to draft and polish one carefully, and then use essentially the same creation for all schools.

Ask people to read your essays. Lots of people. Friends know your stories and can guess what you are trying to say even if you haven’t written it clearly.

Ask your readers to paraphrase the main point. Also ask if anything was confusing or unclear.

Grammar, punctuation, word usage, proper paragraphing, and other writing techniques all count.

Make sure your name appears on each page of your essay. Number the pages and use paper clips rather than staples.

Regardless of what and how you write, always have others critique it. Don't be surprised, however, if you get differing opinions on the content. In the end, only you can decide on the best way to present yourself.

REFERENCES

Lermack, P. (1997). How to get into the right law school. Lincolnwood, IL: VGM Career Horizons.
Peterson's graduate and professional programs: An overview. (1996). Princeton, NJ: Peterson's Guides.
Thank you to Darwin Kysor, Director of Career Services at Juniata College, for providing this information.

WRITING EXERCISES FOR THE GRADUATE ADMISSIONS ESSAY, STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, OR LETTER OF INTENT

Answer each question with a narrative essay of any length, from a paragraph to several pages, whatever feels right.

1. How did you first get interested in this field of study?
2. What has influenced this interest over time? What professors, classes, labs, papers, research projects, books or ideas have influenced you? What out-of-class experiences have influenced you?
3. If your interest has changed over time, how has your prior interest contributed to your understanding of/approach to your current interest?
4. Make a list of all your undergraduate papers, labs, and research projects. If you cannot remember their exact names, approximate or paraphrase.
5. Do you have any publications or presentations at academic conferences? Are there publications you can submit or any academic conferences you can attend (in any capacity) between now and when you would begin your graduate studies?
6. What will you do between now and when you will arrive at your graduate institution? Which classes will you take? What skills will you acquire? What internship, work or community service experiences will you complete?
7. How have you researched your graduate school options to date? Have you visited schools, researched them on Web sites, written to professors, attended conferences?
8. Can you remember encouraging words you have received from professors, employers, coaches, or peers? If others have encouraged you to pursue your goals, can you remember, as exactly as you can, what they said to you? If so, make a list of quotes.
9. What is your GPA in the following categories: overall, year by year, over the last four completed semesters, in your major, since you declared your current major, in math and sciences, not counting math and sciences, not counting semesters abroad, etc.? Look at your transcripts and see if there are other ways of analyzing your GPA that might be of interest to admissions readers.
10. How have you prepared yourself for success in graduate school? What body of relevant knowledge will you take with you? What study or laboratory skills will help you succeed? What personal attributes will help you?
11. Have you overcome adversity to get where you are? (Be brief.)

12. What makes you unique or unusual? List several things.
13. What are your leisure activities? What do you do when you are not being a student? What do you do to relieve stress?
14. How might you contribute to the academic community you intend to join? How will that community be benefited by association with you?
15. Can you name specific professors of interest at your top three graduate programs? If so, list them along with their research/academic specialties.
16. What will you do with this degree? Will you teach, do research, work in industry or government? All of the above? (If you don't know, don't invent.)

This handout courtesy of Donald Asher, adapted from *Graduate Admissions Essays* (Ten Speed Press, 2000), the best-selling guide to the graduate admissions process. See *Graduate Admissions Essays* for sample essays in all fields.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE PRE-WRITING EXERCISE BUILD A TABLE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECTS

Suggestions:

- list projects in order of interest to your targeted reader
- use working titles to describe your research projects
- name your professor/advisor/supervisor

Sample Undergraduate Research Projects

Designed original research into the ultrafiltration of proteins, including developing a theoretical model for design, design and actual prototyping of cross-flow ultrafiltration unit, and experimentation to determine optimal settings for maximal permeate flux. A Biochemical Engineering Laboratory senior project under the direction of Prof. L. Hintzer.

- Designed a stream remediation project involving liquid-liquid extraction to remove *m*-xylene from contaminated water; also used EPA QUAL2E to model the effects of DO, BOD, and Nitrogen cycle, under the guidance of Prof. L. Hintzer.
- Conducted research into mathematical models of potential use for codifying chaotic systems such as watersheds, an independent study under NSF grant supervised by Prof. P. Cenczynsky. Abstract and draft findings available at <http://www.HarveyMudd.edu/~czynsky/models2.html>.
- Designed and conducted original research into quantitative and qualitative properties of a meteorite sample using atomic absorption spectrophotometry, emission spectrophotometry, induction coupled plasma, and laser spectrophotometry under the direction of Prof. R. Hull-Wallace. Results presented at the Argonne National Laboratory during annual meeting of the International Association of Amateur Astronomers, 2003.

This is not just for science students! Similar descriptions can be written about papers and projects in the liberal arts and other fields, e.g., “Designed and conducted an in-depth analysis of the use of lightness and darkness to convey moral authority in Elizabethan poetry of _____, _____, and _____, resulting in a 28-page paper presented in summary to the Anderson College English Department Colloquium, Nov. 1st, 2005.”

TEN THINGS TO DO IF YOU DON'T GET IN

1. Apply earlier (avoid the last six weeks before the deadline).
2. Apply to more schools (six is usually considered a prudent minimum: two safe schools, two middle of the road schools, two reach schools).
3. Apply to more safe schools (even 4.0 students can and do get rejected).
4. Visit and wow 'em (be sure to follow Asher's Law).
5. Go to summer school in the targeted subject and wow 'em (it's easy to get into summer school, even at Harvard).
6. Take one class at a time in the targeted subject and wow 'em (remember: your most recent grades count the most).
7. Get volunteer or internship experiences in the targeted field (even part-time, even unpaid).
8. Work in a "real job" in the targeted field (there's no substitute for actual experience, and recommendations from supervisors in the profession).
9. Get an intermediate degree (such as a master's or even just a credential).
10. Get older and try again (many times, that's all it takes).

Don't forget that the best time to apply is early in the fall so that you can start graduate school the following fall, so *be sure to plan ahead!*

Asher's Law: Thou shalt not write, nor call, nor visit any graduate faculty member without having read some of his or her works first.

WHY YOU NEED TO APPLY EARLY AND TO SEVERAL PROGRAMS

(these are actual cases)

One student was rejected because her portfolio was "accidentally placed on the wrong pile." The graduate school discovered its mistake later in the season, but had already sent the student a rejection letter. Rather than admit what had happened, they let the decision stand.

A student applying for a Ph.D. in philosophy received a letter from a major university rejecting his application for a Ph.D. in Germanic languages.

A student was rejected by an internationally acclaimed architecture program after his portfolio was reviewed by Prof. X. When he called to inquire about the status of his application, Prof. Y picked up his portfolio, glanced through it while the student was on hold, and reversed the decision of Prof X. Thus was he admitted.

One professor forgot to mail a wonderful letter of recommendation he had written for his favorite advisee, and she was rejected.

Another professor was not granted tenure, and stopped performing all duties whatsoever that were not contractually required. This included writing letters of recommendation *that he had already agreed to write*. At least one of his advisees was not admitted to a graduate program because of this. The student never knew what happened.

A student failed to send original transcripts from a community college she attended while in high school. The transfer grades from the community college appeared on her regular college transcript but, through a bizarre chain of events, an overzealous student employee and a 50 cent library fine from six years prior conspired to keep her out of graduate school.

A student had a wonderful exchange of letters with a department chair, some of which included such statements as "We're so delighted that you will be joining us next year." Nevertheless, she was rejected by the graduate school office, which had more authority than the department.

Adapted from *Graduate Admissions Essays* by Donald Asher

GRADUATE SCHOOL LITERATURE

1. Admission Requirements of U.S. & Canadian Dental Schools
2. Barron's Guide to Law School
3. Barron's How to Prepare for the MCAT
4. The Best 286 Colleges
5. The Chiropractic College Directory
6. Annotated Practice MCAT
7. A Guide to Sources of Financial Aid for Osteopathic Medical Students
8. Directory of Medical and Dental Schools
9. Financing Graduate School
10. Getting into Medical School
11. Grants for Graduate and Postdoctoral Study
12. Cracking the LSAT; How to Prepare for the LSAT
13. Medical School Admissions Requirements
14. The Official Guide for GMAT Review; How to Prepare for the GMAT
15. The Official Guide to MBA Programs
16. Peterson's Guides
17. Preparing for the GRE
18. The Official Guide to Financing Your MBA
19. Guide to Graduate Education in Urban and Regional Planning
20. Barron's Guide to Medical & Dental Schools
21. The Best Medical Schools
22. Chemical Sciences Graduate School Finder
23. The College Blue Book
24. The Complete Guide to Preparation for the MCAT
25. Directory of Graduate Preparation Programs in College Student Personnel
26. Directory of School Psychology Graduate Programs
27. Free Money for Graduate School
28. Graduate Study in Psychology
29. The Complete Guide to Graduate School Admissions
30. How to Get Into the Right Law School
31. Neuroscience Training Programs
32. Veterinary Medical School Admissions Requirements in the U.S. and Canada
33. The Official Guide to U.S. Law Schools
34. The Premedical Planning Guide
35. Scholarships, Fellowships and Loans
36. Worldwide Graduate Scholarship Directory