



The University of Maryland Graduate School Receives Insight Into Diversity 2024 Higher Education Excellence In Diversity (HEED) Award

College Park, Maryland, October 3,

Today, the University of Maryland Graduate School received the 2024 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from Insight Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. As a recipient of the annual HEED Award — a national honor recognizing U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion — the University of Maryland Graduate School will be featured, along with 113 other recipients, in the November/December 2024 issue of Insight Into Diversity magazine.

According to Georgina Dodge, the university's vice president for diversity and inclusion, "The Graduate School at the University of Maryland ensures that students receive the support needed to thrive, which positively impacts retention and recruitment. The diversity in the graduate student body creates a community where robust learning and cultural interactions can occur, and that synergy helps to attract diverse students to UMD."

Insight Into Diversity magazine selected the University of Maryland Graduate School for its outstanding dedication to building a diverse and inclusive student community. The university offers prospective students the chance to delve into the world of graduate studies and research careers. One of the ways it does this is by providing undergraduates with extensive research opportunities under the guidance of faculty mentors and engaging enrichment activities. For example, the Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP) spans eight to ten weeks and is designed to equip undergraduates with the skills and mentorship necessary to excel in graduate school and research careers. This program aims to boost the participation of underrepresented students in pursuing graduate education and thriving in research-related professions.

UMD was also lauded for its intentional efforts to provide comprehensive training for faculty and staff involved in graduate admissions reviews. The UMD Graduate Holistic Review Program equips

admissions reviewers with the necessary tools to ensure that qualified students from diverse backgrounds are admitted, promoting inclusivity within the institution.

The University of Maryland Graduate School is dedicated to fostering a diverse and inclusive academic community by actively recruiting students from underrepresented backgrounds. They provide valuable opportunities for prospective students to explore graduate study and research careers. Additionally, the school prioritizes creating a supportive environment for all students. The GradSERU graduate student survey is utilized to analyze and identify areas for improvement, ensuring that the Graduate School continues to make special efforts to recruit a diverse student body and provide inclusive access. Furthermore, the Graduate School offers valuable support and resources to maintain a welcoming campus climate for all.

“The HEED Award process consists of a comprehensive and rigorous application that includes questions relating to the recruitment and retention of students and employees — and best practices for both — leadership support for diversity, campus culture and climate, supplier diversity, and many other aspects of campus diversity and inclusion,” said Lenore Pearlstein, publisher of Insight Into Diversity magazine. “We take a detailed approach to reviewing each application in deciding who will be named a HEED Award recipient. Our standards are high, and we look for institutions where diversity and inclusion are woven into the work being done every day across their campus.”

Other recipients of the 2024 HEED Award are:

Undergraduate Institutions

Adelphi University
Agnes Scott College
Arkansas State University
Augustana College (IL)
Ball State University Bentley
University
Binghamton University (SUNY)
Brown University
Cal State LA
California State University San Marcos California
State University, Fresno
Carnegie Mellon University
Clemson University
Columbia University in the City of New York
Cornell University
DePaul University Drake
University Drexel
University
Elon University Emory
University
Farmingdale State College
Framingham State University
Franklin and Marshall College
George Mason University Gonzaga
University
Governors State University Hope
College
Indiana University
Indiana University Indianapolis
Johns Hopkins University
Kansas State University Kent
State University Lasell
University Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Loyola Marymount University
Maryville University
McDaniel College
Metropolitan State University of Denver Miami
University
Millersville University of Pennsylvania Mississippi
State University
Mount Holyoke College Nazareth
University
Northern Illinois University Ohio
University
Oklahoma State University
Portland State University Regis
College
Rochester Institute of Technology Rowan
University
Saint Louis University San
Diego State University
Santa Clara University Smith
College
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Stetson University
Stony Brook University

Suffolk
University SUNY
Old Westbury
SUNY Oneonta
Swarthmore
College Temple
University
Texas Christian University
The Colorado College
The University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Towson University
Trinity College
Tulane University
UC Merced
UNC Charlotte
University at Albany, State University of New York
University of California, Berkeley
University of Central
Florida University of
Cincinnati University of
Georgia University of
Louisville University of
Lynchburg
University of Massachusetts Boston
University of Massachusetts Lowell
University of Massachusetts,
Amherst University of Missouri-St.
Louis University of Oregon
University of Pittsburgh
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Western Illinois University
Whitman College

Law & Graduate Schools

Adler University
Indiana University Indianapolis Graduate School
New York University Silver School of Social Work
Pacific University College of Business
South Texas College of Law Houston
UC Davis School of Law
University of Illinois Chicago School of Law

Community Colleges

Anne Arundel Community College
Community College of Aurora
Connecticut State Community College
Cuyahoga Community College
Essex County College
Germanna Community
College Greenville Technical
College
Hudson County Community College
Joliet Junior College
Long Beach City College
Moraine Valley Community College
Pikes Peak State College
Rock Valley College
Rockland Community
College Santa Rosa Junior
College William Rainey
Harper College

For more information about the 2024 HEED Award, visit insightintodiversity.com.

For more information about the University of Maryland Graduate School, visit gradschool.umd.edu

The Graduate School's mission is to advance graduate education and enhance the experiences of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. We support academic excellence and consistency of quality across all graduate programs by setting and overseeing policies and standards. We promote exceptional research and educational programs, coordinate campus-wide academic support for student success, advocate for graduate education among key influencers both in and beyond the university, and foster inclusivity and belonging within our diverse graduate community. The Graduate School serves as a home base for all graduate students and postdocs, offering guidance and support from application to graduation and every milestone in between.

About Insight Into Diversity

Insight Into Diversity magazine is the leader in advancing best practices in DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) in higher education. Through thought-provoking print and online articles, we share expert advice, valuable resources, in-depth profiles of top DEI programs at colleges and universities, headline news, and much more to help keep our readers informed and empower them to advance DEI initiatives at their institutions. To further our mission, we created the Insight Into Diversity Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award in 2012. The HEED Award — including the more targeted Insight Into Diversity Health Professions, Law School, and Community College HEED Awards — is the only national honor to recognize institutions of higher education for their outstanding commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Current, archived, and digital issues of Insight Into Diversity magazine are available online at insightintodiversity.com.

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