



# STEM Graduate education at Duke

Dona Chikaraishi, PhD  
Associate Dean of Biomedical Graduate Education (retired)

## Governance/Resources at multiple levels on one campus

- **University**, Career Center, Postdoctoral Office (<https://postdoc.duke.edu/>)
- **Graduate School** (2700 PhD students in 53 programs), confers all PhDs, Career development for grad students, Certificate in College Teaching, Professional development series (Beyond Academia, Core competencies, PhD Career Paths)
- **Individual Schools**: STEM students (1700, 65% of Duke's PhD students) in 4 Schools: A&S (500), Engineering (500), Environment (110), Medicine (600), Discipline-specific career development: Medicine runs Molecular Medicine program, Engineering runs Entrepreneurship training
- **Individual Programs** (25-200 students); distributed model; recruit, mentor, track. Career development: alumni visits, specific training, i.e., Teaching College Biology, national societies

<i>How Do We Help?</i>	Program	Med School	Grad School	University
Category	SOM PhD Programs	OBGE	The Grad School	Career Center
Host Scientific Seminars				
Offer Scientific Mentorship				
Develop Core Curriculum				
Administrative Support				
Student and Faculty Guidance on Funding				
First-hand knowledge of the PhD Process				
Brainstorm Career Options				
Professional Development Programming				
Networking with Alumni				
Student Outcomes Tracking				
Academic Career Series				
Non-Academic Career Series				
Self-assessment & Values Work				
One-on-one Career Counseling				
CV / Resume Review				
Application / Cover Letter Review				
Connection with Employers				
Mock Interview				

- Responsible Conduct of Research
  - Weekend retreat for all biomedical matrics
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> year “refresher” session
- Career Development
  - Individual Development Plan
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> year session based on IDP
- Mental Well being

# Biomedical Administrative Support

- Regular best practices meetings for program leaders and admins
  - Recruitment, mentoring, curriculum
- Institutional training grant preparation; tables
- Tracking during and after graduation
- Financial backstop for students whose mentors lose funding

# School of Medicine Biomedical Programs

<https://medschool.duke.edu/education/degree-programs-and-admissions/office-biomedical-graduate-education>

- **Distributed Organization** (about 100 matrics/yr)
  - 16 admitting and 12 PhD granting programs
  - Each program recruits, sets curriculum, and graduation requirements
  - Each program has a Director of Graduate Studies and an DGS assistant
- **Two years of institutional support** including NIH training grants, then PI (grad support varies with the school)
- **Shared Resources**
  - Office of Biomedical Graduate Education (Chris Nicchitta)
  - Office of Biomedical Graduate Diversity (Sherilynn Black)