

Graduate Student Life Weekly Digest

Graduate Student Life Weekly Digest October 27, 2025

Welcome to the Graduate Student Life Weekly Digest!

This weekly digest serves as official communication from the Office of Graduate Student Life and keeps you up-to-date on events, opportunities, campus resources and support services for graduate students at Rutgers-New Brunswick! Share with your friends and tell them to subscribe [HERE](#)! You can contact the Office of Graduate Student Life by emailing gradstudentlife@echo.rutgers.edu or visiting our offices during the week in the Graduate Student Lounge (126 College Ave., behind Panera Bread).

The Graduate Student Lounge is open from 7:00am-12:00am Monday-Friday and 9:00am-12:00am Saturday-Sunday. Click [HERE](#) to view the current daily hours for the College Ave. Student Center (includes Graduate Student Lounge). Learn more about the Office of Graduate Student Life by visiting our website [HERE](#)!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US! Slice of Connection: A First-Gen Grad Meet-up – Monday, November 3, 11:00am – 2:00pm

Location: Graduate Student Lounge (Behind Panera, 126 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

RSVP [HERE](#)!

In recognition of National First-Generation College Celebration Week (November 3-8), join the Office of Graduate Student Life for a low-pressure drop-in event for first-generation graduate students in the Graduate Student Lounge. Whether you're just starting grad school or deep into the journey, Slice of Connection is your chance to pause, reflect, and build your campus network. Chat with veteran first-gens over pizza and mingle with staff who have also navigated the first-gen grad journey. For questions, please email Ghada Endick, Assistant Dean Graduate Student Life, at gradstudentlife@echo.rutgers.edu.

Make a Plan to Vote in the New Jersey Gubernatorial Election

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4, and early voting is happening NOW through November 2. Click [HERE](#) to learn more on the RU Voting website.

National Transfer Student Week

October 20-24 is National Transfer Student Week! The purpose of this week is to celebrate the transfer student community and professionals who support them; support the academic, personal and professional success of transfer students; and connect transfer students with peers and campus resources. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, VPVA will be turning Rutgers campus purple! Join us in honoring the victims of domestic violence through wearing purple on every Wednesday of October. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

– STAY INFORMED –

Looking for more ways to stay informed? Check out the [newsletters page](#) on our website! The newsletters page is the new home for information about various newsletters and listservs that are relevant to the graduate student experience including: the Graduate Student Association, Student Volunteer Engagement, Career Exploration and Success: Doctoral Career Community, Student Basic Needs, and more!

Follow Graduate Student Life on Instagram!

Stay up to date with the Office of Graduate Student Life by following us on Instagram [@rugradstudentlife](#)! Never miss another graduate student life event!

EVENTS

– THIS WEEK! –

Crafting Hour: Make Mini-Rage Piñatas! – Monday, October 27, 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Location: Office of Disability Services (Lucy Stone Hall, First Floor Lobby, Room A145, 54 Joyce Kilmer Ave., Piscataway, Livingston Campus)

Register [HERE](#)!

Scarlet Arts RX and the Office of Disability Services are hosting a crafting hour for students with disabilities and disability allies! Make a mini-rage piñata, eat candy, and stress less!

Rutgers Community Farmer's Market – Tuesday, October 28, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Location: Rutgers Community Farmers Market (178 Jones Ave., New Brunswick, C/D Campus)

Looking for FRESH produce near Rutgers? Rutgers Community Farmers Market is here! Managed by Rutgers students and staff, the Rutgers Community Farmer's Market partners with local growers and vendors every week to bring nutritious, fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as unique artisan products. They're open four days a week at 3 different locations. Plus ALL fruits and veggies are HALF off if you use SNAP/EBT, WIC, Farmers Market Nutrition Program. All NEW customers will receive a Market Card and shopping bag! Stay up to date with Market Vendors & Programs: follow their Instagram @rutgersfarmersmarket AND sign up for their newsletter. Click [HERE](#) for the website.

Unleashing Independence: The Vital Role of Service Dogs – Tuesday, October 28, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: Hybrid: in-person: Alexander Library, 4th Floor Conference Room (169 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Register [HERE](#)!

Learn how service dogs foster independence, confidence, and inclusion at this hybrid event! Representatives from The Seeing Eye (Morristown, NJ), and Canine Companions for Independence, along with service-dog users, puppy raisers, and professional trainers will share stories, insights, and explore the training and placement process to highlight how these dogs enhance mobility, safety, and emotional well-being. The program includes a live service-dog demonstration, a moderated discussion, and audience Q&A on volunteering, puppy raising, and supporting service-dog organizations. For accommodations or additional questions about the access provided, please contact Shannon at 848-932-7074 or skc143@scarletmail.rutgers.edu.

"Talk It Out" – A Dialogue Dinner Across Difference – Tuesday, October 28, 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Location: New Brunswick Theological Seminary (Hageman Hall, 35 Seminary Pl., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

RSVP [HERE](#)!

Talk it Out (aka Table Manners) is a program designed to foster meaningful conversations around complex and often sensitive topics, including money, sex, politics, and religion. This session will focus on politics and religion.

Haunted Walking Tour of Douglass Campus for International Graduate Students – Tuesday, October 28, 7:30pm – 8:30pm

Location: Meet by College Hall (125 George St., New Brunswick, C/D Campus)

Register [HERE](#)!

Celebrate Halloween week with SEBS Office of Global Engagement by joining a spooky evening walk with your fellow international students as you tour around the Douglass campus and hear ghost stories of murder, deceit, revenge and other strange

supernatural occurrences! Contact Tracy Waldman sebsglobal@sebs.rutgers.edu with any questions.

Scarlet Honor Council Information Session – Wednesday, October 29, 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

The Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution Services invites undergraduate and graduate students to join the Scarlet Honor Council! The Scarlet Honor Council is a team of students committed to upholding Rutgers community standards and promoting a safe and civil campus environment. Membership in the council is a great opportunity to develop leadership skills, meet new people, and get involved in the public life of your campus. Members of the Scarlet Honor Council serve on the University Hearing Board and the Campus Appeals Committee and provide education and outreach to the Rutgers community. For more information about the council, click [HERE](#). After submitting an application, students who are chosen to progress to the next stage will be invited to an interview. Appointments to the council will be made based on applications and interviews. Students who are appointed to the council must then complete the appropriate training program. For more information about training, Click [HERE](#). Questions? Contact Ranaysia Burrell at rnb72@echo.rutgers.edu.

Access and Inclusion: Understanding Barriers to Campus Care for Diverse Student Populations – Wednesday, October 29, 10:00am – 11:00am

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

This panel draws on the experiences of student veterans and students with autism to explore the challenges of navigating campus services and accommodations. Learn how systemic barriers, stigma, and gaps in accessibility impact students' ability to receive the care they need. The discussion also considers both structural and cultural factors that shape students' experiences, as well as strategies for creating more inclusive and supportive campus environments. For accommodations or additional information about the access provided, please contact Lauren Manley at lnm79@ssw.rutgers.edu.

My Brain: The Best & Worst Part of Me – Creating Neuro-Inclusive Spaces in Student Affairs – Wednesday, October 29 – 10:00am – 1:30pm

Location: Livingston Student Center (84 Joyce Kilmer Ave., Piscataway, Livingston Campus)

Register [HERE!](#)

Whether your brain thrives on structure, creativity, or a little bit of chaos, this session is for you. Dr. Brooke Paradise (they/them) shares how to make our classrooms, offices,

and student orgs spaces where every kind of brain belongs. Come curious. Leave inspired. Bring a friend and help us create a more caring, inclusive Rutgers.

- Faculty & Staff Session: 10:00am–11:30am (refreshments provided)
- Student Lunch & Learn: 12:00pm–1:30 pm (lunch provided)

Jazz on the Lawn: Free Music for Your Well-Being – Wednesday, October 29, 12:00pm – 1:30pm

Location: Institute for Food, Nutrition, and Health (near Harvest Cafe, outdoors on the lawn; 61 Dudley Rd., New Brunswick, C/D Campus)

Enjoy your lunch along while listening to melodies by popular Jazz Saxophonist Brandon Mejia, with Jeff Andalaro and Seraphina Taylor. Bring a picnic blanket if you would like! Weather permitting - no jazz in the rain. This event will happen every Wednesday until October 29, weather permitting.

Empathy First, Compliance Second: A Learner-Centered Approach to ADA Title II Accessibility Changes – Wednesday, October 29, 2:30pm – 3:50pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

This workshop introduces faculty to an ‘empathy first’ approach to ADA Title II that prioritizes student learning. Facilitated by Dena Novak, Director of Instructional Design for University Online Education Services (UOES), and Joy McDonald, Associate Director for Academic Technology Services (ATS), participants will explore proactive strategies to remove barriers and create inclusive learning environments, with an emphasis on prioritizing actionable changes and setting realistic implementation goals. This session will also highlight key campus resources. For accommodations or additional information about the access provided, please contact Catherine Clepper at 973-353-2882 or cc1819@newark.rutgers.edu.

When the Safety Net Fails People with Disabilities: How Social Workers and Other Professionals Navigate Changes to Medicaid and Medicare – Thursday, October 30, 10:00am – 11:30am

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

As Medicaid and Medicare policies shift at the federal and state levels, individuals with disabilities may face increasing barriers to accessing essential healthcare and support services. This session explores how the evolving landscape of public benefits impacts people with disabilities, and what happens when the safety net intended to protect them begins to unravel. The workshop will also highlight advocacy opportunities and resources for social workers, people with disabilities, and other professionals. For accommodations or additional information about the access provided, please contact Nadia Montgomery at (848) 932-8087 or nm1278@ssw.rutgers.edu.

Rutgers Community Farmer's Market – Thursday, October 30, 11:00am – 4:00pm

Location: College Ave. Student Center (126 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Looking for FRESH produce near Rutgers? Rutgers Community Farmers Market is here! Managed by Rutgers students and staff, the Rutgers Community Farmer's Market partners with local growers and vendors every week to bring nutritious, fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as unique artisan products. They're open four days a week at 3 different locations. PLUS ALL fruits and veggies are HALF off if you use SNAP/EBT, WIC, Farmers Market Nutrition Program. All NEW customers will receive a Market Card and shopping bag! Stay up to date with Market Vendors & Programs: follow their Instagram @rutgersfarmersmarket AND sign up for their newsletter. Click [HERE](#) for the website.

Understanding US Higher Education: Systems, Structures, and Career Pathways – Thursday, October 30, 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE](#)!

The U.S. higher education system is incredibly diverse, with many types of institutions that shape faculty work, research expectations, and hiring in different ways. This session will help you make sense of that landscape, enabling you to plan your next career steps with confidence. During this event, you will learn about institution types, how they operate, and career implications. You will leave with a clear visual map of U.S. higher education and how different institutions compare, and a short self-assessment to help you identify which environments best fit your values, strengths, and long-term goals. For information on all of the Grad CareerCraft Workshops for Fall 2025, click [HERE](#)!

Thursdays in Motion (Yoga) – Thursday, October 30, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Location: Graduate Student Lounge (Behind Panera; 126 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Join us on Thursdays to take a pause from your busy week by relaxing your mind and body with your fellow graduate students. No registration needed. Mats and blocks are provided, and all skill levels are welcome! Email gradstudentlife@echo.rutgers.edu with any questions. Graduate Student Pilates is hosted by Rutgers Recreation and Office of Graduate Student Life.

Rutgers Community Farmer's Market – Friday, October 31, 11:00am - 3:00pm

Location: Rutgers Gardens (112 Log Cabin Rd., North Brunswick)

Looking for FRESH produce near Rutgers? Rutgers Community Farmers Market is here! Managed by Rutgers students and staff, the Rutgers Community Farmer's Market partners with local growers and vendors every week to bring nutritious, fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as unique artisan products. They're open four days a week at 3

different locations. PLUS ALL fruits and veggies are HALF off if you use SNAP/EBT, WIC, Farmers Market Nutrition Program. All NEW customers will receive a Market Card and shopping bag! Stay up to date with Market Vendors & Programs: follow their Instagram @rutgersfarmersmarket AND sign up for their newsletter. Click [HERE](#) for the website.

Rutgers Community Farmer's Market – Saturday, November 1, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Location: Rutgers Community Farmers Market (178 Jones Ave., New Brunswick, C/D Campus)

Looking for FRESH produce near Rutgers? Rutgers Community Farmers Market is here! Managed by Rutgers students and staff, the Rutgers Community Farmer's Market partners with local growers and vendors every week to bring nutritious, fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as unique artisan products. They're open four days a week at 3 different locations. Plus ALL fruits and veggies are HALF off if you use SNAP/EBT, WIC, Farmers Market Nutrition Program. All NEW customers will receive a Market Card and shopping bag! Stay up to date with Market Vendors & Programs: follow their Instagram @rutgersfarmersmarket AND sign up for their newsletter. Click [HERE](#) for the website.

– RSVP NOW & COMING UP! –

COMING UP! Virtual Artist Talk: Sonya Kelliher-Combs (Iñupiaq/Athabaskan) – Monday, November 3, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE](#)!

Join The Zimmerli Museum online for dynamic conversations with Indigenous artists exploring identity, heritage, and contemporary expression. In conjunction with the Zimmerli Art Museum's exhibition Indigenous Identities: Here, Now & Always, Sonya Kelliher-Combs virtually joins us to discuss her artwork "Remnant (Walrus Bone IV)" and her wider mixed media art making practice. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

COMING UP! Do Accommodations Make Sense for You? ODS Drop-In Hours – Wednesday, November 5, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: Graduate Student Lounge (Behind Panera, 126 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Do you identify as having a disability or wonder about whether a condition is a disability? Stop by the Graduate Student Lounge to meet Nychey Michel, Sr. Disability Services Coordinator, and find out more. Snacks, sensory toys, and crafts while supplies last! The Office of Disability Services provides reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities, including hearing, vision, and mobility conditions, learning difficulties, psychological diagnoses (including anxiety and depression), chronic illnesses, and more! No registration required. Contact Nychey Michel via email at nlm108@echo.rutgers.edu or by calling 848-202-3111 if you have questions about accommodations.

COMING UP! Thursdays in Motion (Pilates) – Thursday, November 6, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Location: Graduate Student Lounge (Behind Panera; 126 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Join us on Thursdays to take a pause from your busy week by relaxing your mind and body with your fellow graduate students. No registration needed. Mats and blocks are provided, and all skill levels are welcome! Email gradstudentlife@echo.rutgers.edu with any questions. Graduate Student Pilates is hosted by Rutgers Recreation and Office of Graduate Student Life.

COMING UP! Tekcno Powwow – Thursday, November 6, 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: Zimmerli Art Museum (71 Hamilton St., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Register [HERE!](#)

Tekcno Powwow Jr.2: To the Second Power has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 6! It is taking place during The Zimmerli Museum's monthly SparkNight event. Please note these important details: Tekcno Powwow takes place at Kirkpatrick Chapel, across the street from the museum. Doors open at 5:00pm. Please arrive by 5:30pm, when the doors close. The performance concludes at 7:00pm. Following the performance, there will be refreshments in the museum. If you registered for visitor parking before, you need to register again via a new link. If you RSVP'ed before on Eventbrite, that does not carry over to the new attendance list. SparkNight takes place in the museum from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. A food truck is out front from noon to 8:00pm. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

COMING UP! GSA Tabletop Gaming Committee – Thursday, November 6, 7:00pm – Midnight

Location: College Avenue Student Center, Room 108 (Bottom Floor; 126 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Graduate school can be intense — that's why the GSA Tabletop Gaming Committee is here to help you unwind, recharge, and connect! Whether you're into classic board games, strategic challenges, or just want to hang out with fellow grad students in a low-pressure setting, this is the perfect opportunity. No registration necessary – just drop in! Please email Alex Nesenjuk at an525@scarletmail.rutgers.edu with any questions.

COMING UP! 37th Annual Trivia Bowl – November 12, 7:30pm - 10:00pm

Location: College Avenue Gym (130 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

Register [HERE](#) by November 11!

Don't miss your chance to be part of the Annual Trivia Bowl hosted by Rutgers Recreation! Sign up in teams of 3. One person on the team must be a Rutgers affiliate (students, fac/staff, alumni) and friends and family are welcome! There are a ton of prizes and giveaways and best part, it is free! Contact Paul Fischbach paul.fischbach@rutgers.edu with any questions.

COMING UP! Afrofit Fusion: Pilates and Dance – November 15, 11:30am - 12:30pm

Location: Cook Recreation Center Dance Room (50 Biel Rd, New Brunswick, C/D Campus)

Register [HERE](#)!

Experience strengthening your body and mind while embracing the vibrant rhythm of Afrobeats! Start with Pilates-inspired exercises to build core strength and mobility, followed by dynamic Afrobeats choreography that energizes and empowers. End with a restorative stretch to leave you feeling strong, confident, and refreshed. AfroFit Fusion is perfect for all experience levels, blending dance and fitness for a truly invigorating experience - instructed by Zina & Victoria. Contact Zina at zno1@rutgers.edu with any questions!

– WELLNESS WORKSHOPS, GROUPS, & SUPPORT–

International Students' Wellness Group (CAPS Group) – Grad & Undergrad – Tuesdays, 3:00pm – 4:30pm

Location: Asian American Cultural Center (49 Joyce Kilmer Ave., Piscataway, Livingston Campus)

Are you an international student adjusting to life in a new country? You're not alone. Many international students face challenges like homesickness, culture shock, loneliness, language barriers, or academic stress. The International Student Wellness Group offers a safe, confidential space to: Share your experiences with others who understand, build connections and community, talk through the ups and downs of cross-cultural adjustment, and get support for emotional, academic, or social stress. Wherever you're from, you're welcome here. Meetings occur every Tuesday, September 30 - December 8. To get connected, please call 848-932-7884. Information and more wellness and therapy options for fall 2025 visit [HERE](#)!

Grad Student Drop in Support Space (CAPS Group) – Thursdays, 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Location: Chemistry & Chemical Biology Building, Room 2105 (123 Bevier Rd., Piscataway, Busch Campus)

Grad Drop-In group is a location for graduate students to come and process the way they are navigating their respective program. This will provide space for students to discuss the responsibilities of grad school vs undergrad, managing work life balance, navigating the expectations of advisors, working through the dissertation/thesis writing process, and anything else students bring to the table. Available every Thursday. To get connected, please call 848-932-7884. For more information and wellness and therapy options for Fall 2025 click [HERE!](#)

FamiLGBTQIA+ Group (CAPS Group) – Fridays, 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Location: Virtual

If you are a queer/LGBIA/transgender student, this confidential, supportive space is for you! Topics include navigating coming out, concerns related to family acceptance and rejection, dealing with current events, dating and relationships, building community, and everything in between! The group meets weekly over the semester every Friday. To join, call CAPS at 848-932-7884. For more information, email Dr. Krish Sehgal at krish.sehgal@rutgers.edu or Ms. Manda Gatto at gattoma@echo.rutgers.edu.

Weekly Let's Talk Drop in Counseling Conversations

Let's Talk is a free and confidential service offered by Community Based Counselors at CAPS, in various locations throughout campus. It provides students with opportunities to drop in for an informal consultation with a counselor to discuss personal concerns in a comfortable and non-judgmental setting. Let's Talk is also available in-person or by phone. Students are welcome to visit any Community Based Counselor they would like and may choose a counselor based on the topic they would like to discuss and the counselor's therapeutic approach or community.

The graduate student focused counselors, Dana Simons and Shan Reeves, will be hosting weekly Let's Talk sessions on the following days during the Fall 2025 semester, in addition to an international student-focused group led by Mei-Ling Cheng:

- **Mondays:** 2:00pm-4:00pm
Location: Rutgers Global International Student Services (180 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus) and on [Zoom](#) with Mei-Ling
- **Tuesdays:** 10:00am-12:00pm
Location: BME Reading Room 130A (599 Taylor Rd. Piscataway, Busch Campus) and on [Zoom](#) with Dana
- **Tuesdays:** 2:00pm-4:00pm
Location: Honors College Building, Room E125 (15 Seminary Pl., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus) and on [Zoom](#) with Shan
- **Thursdays:** 10:00am-12:00pm
Location: CABM, Room 240 (679 Hoes Ln. W, Piscataway, Busch Campus) and on [Zoom](#) with Dana

- **Thursdays:** 2:00pm-4:00pm
Location: Chemistry & Chemical Biology Building, Room 2105 (123 Bevier Rd., Piscataway, Busch Campus) and on [Zoom](#) with Shan

Click [HERE](#) for information and schedules for all Let's Talk sessions and click [HERE](#) to learn more about individual CAPS Community Based Counselors (look for "Community Based-Counselor").

CAPS Fall 2025 Wellness & Therapy Groups

Please call CAPS at 848-932-7884 to get connected to a group that best suits your needs.

CAPS will be running in person wellness and therapy groups throughout the year including: Cultivating Calm on Tuesdays, 6:30pm-7:30pm (starting 10/14) and Wednesdays, 6:30pm-7:30pm (starting 10/1); International Student Wellness on Tuesdays, 3:00pm-4:30pm; and RU Grad (for grad students exclusively) on Tuesdays, 1:00pm-2:00pm. Plenty of workshops are being provided this fall! Click [HERE](#) to view the various available workshops and group descriptions. To get connected with any of these groups, please call [848-932-7884](tel:848-932-7884).

Uwill: FREE Immediate-Access to Teletherapy

Uwill provides free immediate access to teletherapy through an easy-to-use, private, secure, confidential, online platform. Choose a therapist based on your preferences, including issue, gender, language, and ethnicity. Select a time that fits your schedule, including day, night, and weekend availability. Register and book your first session using your Rutgers email [HERE](#).

Personal Training with Rutgers Recreation

Location: Various Locations

Ready to reach your fitness goals? 🏋️ Rutgers Recreation's certified personal trainers are here to guide you every step of the way—whether you're just starting out or looking to take your workouts to the next level. Choose from one-on-one or partner sessions at a time and location that fits your schedule. Our trainers will design a personalized program to help you build strength, confidence, and consistency.

For more info: <https://go.rutgers.edu/f25rurecpt>.

– ACADEMIC SUPPORT & WORKSHOPS –

Introduction to QGIS – Tuesday, October 28, 11:30am - 12:45pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE](#)!

A Geographic Information System (GIS) can be a very useful tool for your research by incorporating location when exploring questions. In this short, interactive workshop,

you will learn about the open-source geographic information system: QGIS3. You will explore the interface, add and visualize data, create a map layout, and explore plugins and support. Previous knowledge of GIS is not expected. Please download QGIS prior to the workshop. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

AI and Academic Integrity – Wednesday, October 29, 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

As AI tools are becoming more widely available, both educators and students are faced with new challenges about the ethical use of these tools. This workshop will look at how to navigate academic integrity violations and potential misuses, as well as how to distinguish between acceptable support with this technology and academic dishonesty.

Black Bibliography Project Wikidata Edit-A-Thon – Wednesday, October 29, 12:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: Hatchery Innovation Studio (Ground floor of Alexander Library; 169 College Ave., New Brunswick, College Ave. Campus)

The [Black Bibliography Project](#) is building a database of Black book history to highlight the social networks and aesthetics of Black print culture from the 1700s to the present. Come learn more about the BBP and Wikidata — a free open access knowledge base and the "sister" to Wikipedia. During the Edit-A-Thon, you will learn how to create Wikidata items for Black authors and publishers. These records will ultimately be linked to the BBP's database and make it possible for users to discover forgotten or overlooked Black authors and other literary figures. Stay for some or all of the edit-a-thon! Feel free to BYO lunch. Light snacks provided. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Time Management and Life Balance Workshop – Wednesday, October 29, 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Location: RWJMS Research Tower, Dean's Conference Room 123 (675 Hoes Ln. West, Piscataway, Busch Campus)

Register [HERE!](#)

Let's share what it is like to manage a busy schedule. How do we juggle academic assignments, lab and coursework, maintaining a social life, trying to get enough sleep, eating well and exercising, etc. How do we balance taking out time for ourselves and being a supportive friend or family member? Let's talk about strategies for managing and prioritizing our busy schedules. Contact Janet Alder at janet.alder@rutgers.edu with any questions.

Research Café – Wednesday, October 29, 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

Research Café brings together the entire graduate student community of Rutgers University-New Brunswick/Piscataway campus to strengthen scholarly literacy and interdisciplinary research communication by providing a platform for emerging researchers to connect, share their in-progress research or scholarship, and benefit from peer feedback in a friendly and low-stakes setting. Contact Ramazan Gungor, PhD. rg835@grad.rutgers.edu with any questions.

Data Sources 1 (Major Data Resources, Locating Data, with Focus on Diversity and Data for Minoritized and Underrepresented Groups) – November 4, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

This workshop will provide an overview of major data resources, methods of locating data, with focus on diversity and data for minoritized and underrepresented groups.

Finding Journals to Publish Your Work (Graduate Workshop Series) – Wednesday, November 5 – 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Location: Virtual

Register [HERE!](#)

Choosing the right journal is an important step in the publishing process. In this workshop, you will learn how to match your manuscript with appropriate journals using tools like Journal Finder and Manuscript Matcher. Other topics include identifying reputable journals, understanding impact factors and journal rankings, and recognizing predatory publishers. The session will also introduce Open Access publishing opportunities available through Rutgers University Libraries. This workshop is designed to support graduate students who are preparing to publish their research for the first time or looking to strengthen their publishing strategy.

Graduate Writing Accountability Group Sessions

Need some structure and motivation with working on your projects and assignments? Join a Graduate Writing Accountability Session hosted by the Graduate Writing Program and the Learning Centers! Using the Pomodoro method as a structure, these facilitated sessions will provide a supportive atmosphere where graduate students can sit together on Zoom and write alongside other graduate students to make progress toward their goals. These sessions are hosted on Thursdays, either 11:00am – 1:00pm or 4:00pm – 6:00pm. Click [HERE](#) to view the schedule and register for each session!

Academic Coaching with Dr. Wilson Ng

Meet Dr. Wilson Ng (he/him/his), the newly appointed Senior Program Coordinator and Academic Coach for Graduate Student Services at the Rutgers Learning Centers. Dr. Ng provides one-on-one academic coaching and facilitates workshops and programming tailored to graduate students. With a background in college student affairs and years of experience in student development and support, he is eager to bring his expertise to the Rutgers community and looks forward to collaborating with students as they navigate their academic journeys in graduate school! Click [HERE](#) to make a one-on-one appointment with Dr. Ng via Penji. For any questions, email him at wwn2@echo.rutgers.edu.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, FUNDING, & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

– PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT –

Research Café 2025–26

Apply to present [HERE](#)!

The SGS LEAD hybrid event emerges from their ongoing Research Café series, where Ph.D. students share their scholarship in concise, engaging, and public-facing talks to an interdisciplinary Rutgers audience. Participation helps students strengthen their communication skills, build connections across disciplines, and gain experience presenting to diverse audiences that may mirror their future career pathways. Talks are 10–12 minutes with audience Q&A. This year's overarching theme is Research for a Better Future. Priority areas include:

- Healthy Lives and Communities – food security, nutrition, sustainable systems; public health innovation; healthy aging
- Thriving Minds – mental health, resilience, education, human development
- Civic Futures – citizenship, democracy, civic participation

– SCHOLARSHIP & FUNDING RESOURCES –

IDEA Innovation Grants Program for Rutgers-New Brunswick

The IDEA Innovation Grants Program is a university-wide initiative that demonstrates how we can join together as a community to support institutional change. IDEA Innovation Grants offer a way for creative, innovative, and grassroots efforts to join in the larger institutional strategy. Info and application link: go.rutgers.edu/ideagrant. Applications are due November 16, by 11:49pm.

Check Out GradSense – A Financial Resource for Graduate Students

GradSense is a website designed to help current and prospective students make informed financial decisions about graduate school. GradSense provides guidance on how to evaluate the cost and value of a graduate degree; determining if graduate school aligns with long-term career goals; options for funding a graduate degree and applying for financial assistance; and essential tips on managing finances while in graduate school. GradSense is free and available to anyone who is interested in learning more about the financial considerations of graduate school. GradSense is managed by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) and generously supported by TIAA. Click [HERE](#) to access GradSense.

Build a Fellowship Plan with GradFund!

[GradFund](#) provides graduate students with information on how to apply for external scholarship, fellowship, and funding opportunities. GradFund also provides guidance and assistance with application processes.

Schedule an appointment with a GradFund advisor for fellowship assistance! Schedule a Planning Meeting to learn how to search for fellowships and grants or to plan out your future funding applications. Request Help with a Funder to learn about the funder's application review process and find the best way to frame your research plans for a particular application. Book an Application Review appointment to have a GradFund advisor review your application materials for one application. Schedule a Post-Award Consultation for advice on moving forward after receiving a fellowship offer. Wherever you are in the fellowship, grant, or award process, GradFund is here to help! Click [HERE](#) for more information on GradFund and click [HERE](#) to schedule a GradFund appointment.

Learn to Write a Competitive Funding Application with GradFund's FREE Self-Paced Canvas Course

Learn to write a competitive external funding application using GradFund's FREE self-paced Canvas course! This course teaches the art of competitive proposal writing through developing familiarity with both funders in your field of study and the proposal writing genre. Click [HERE](#) to enroll in GradFund's self-paced Canvas course.

[The Office of Financial Aid](#) can provide information about need-based funding and financial aid. Other forms of need-based aid or scholarships may be available through your school of enrollment.

– EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES –

Web Application Developer Research Assistant – Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

Compensation: \$15-20 per hour

Location: On-site

Apply [HERE](#) by 6:00am on January 30, 2026!

The Department of Architecture and Planning is seeking a motivated and creative Web Application Developer Research Assistant (RA) to support their research on AI digital tools and services. As an RA, you'll have the opportunity to contribute to live projects, collaborate with experienced researchers and faculty, and learn modern research and development practices in a flexible and supportive environment. This is a great opportunity for a computer science student with application development experience - it is not a data science role.

Exam Proctor – Office of Disability Services

Compensation: \$15.49 per hour

Location: In-Person

Apply [HERE](#) by 6:00am on February 12, 2026!

The Office of Disability Services is recruiting graduate students to oversee exams as proctors. The exams may be implemented one-on-one, in a group, or online, and the proctor will be responsible for maintaining the testing environment, as well as communicating with the exam office and other proctors. Flexible availability is preferred, and proctors should be prepared to travel within several campuses. Please review the job listing for additional information.

Web Strategy & Resource Organization Assistant – Rutgers Graduate School of Education

Compensation: \$25-\$30 per hour, 10 hours per week

Location: Hybrid, based in New Brunswick

Apply [HERE](#) by 6:00am on March 9, 2026!

The Rutgers Graduate School of Education is seeking a graduate student in communications, UI/UX, web strategy, or a related field, to assist in system and web development. Responsibilities include developing systems for resource organization, creating and refining existing webpages, and analyzing site metrics. The graduate assistant must have prior experience with CMS and dynamic content design, with a strong understanding of UX principles, and accessibility standards. Please review the job listing for additional details.

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – Rutgers University Emergency Services

Compensation: \$22 per hour, 15 hours per week

Location: On-site

Apply [HERE](#) by 6:00am on August 10, 2026!

The Rutgers University Emergency Services (RUES) is seeking Emergency Medical Technicians. This role requires you to answer all calls for emergency medical treatment on campus and surrounding communities and determine the extent of injuries for medical conditions to provide care, provide standby services for large campus events, and prepare detailed reports of all incidents. Please review the job listing for additional details.

THE RESOURCE CORNER

Wellness Room in Smithers Hall on Busch Campus

Located in Smithers Hall on Busch campus, the Wellness Room aims to alleviate problems highly common among graduate students, such as anxiety, depression, and burnout. The room is always stocked with candy and art materials, in addition to being a space where students can spend time in between classes. The paint and lighting choices were designed to be as soothing as possible, and the candies put out in the Wellness Room have also been chosen specifically for their sensory elements. The room is decorated with informational posters of various wellness practices, such as breathing exercises, as well as links to Rutgers mental health support services. Learn more about the Wellness Room [HERE](#).

Get 24/7 Remote Access to Computer Lab Software with Rutgers Virtual Computer Labs!

The Rutgers Virtual Computer Labs provide 24/7 remote access to dozens of useful PC software applications, just like a physical computer lab. Click [HERE](#) for information about accessing the Virtual Computer Labs.

Save an EXTRA 25% on NJ Transit Monthly Passes!

Rutgers graduate students enrolled in at least 2 courses this semester are eligible for a 25% discount on NJ Transit rail, bus, or light rail monthly passes! Apply online through the NJ Transit Quik-Tik Program by the 10th of the month to receive your discounted pass for the following month via mail (i.e. purchase before November 10 to receive a pass valid for the month of December). Click [HERE](#) for more information and to purchase a discounted NJ Transit monthly pass.

FREE Narcan Nasal Sprays Available Across Rutgers Campuses

Rutgers Student Health encourages students to pick up Naloxone (brand name Narcan), available across multiple campuses, to be prepared in case of an emergency. This easy-to-use nasal spray can rapidly reverse an opioid overdose, working immediately, and causes no harm when administered correctly. Click [HERE](#) to find pickup locations and instructions on administering Narcan in the event of an overdose.

STUDENT SERVICES & SUPPORT

Ongoing Support and Resources for International Students

Rutgers University is aware of the recent, unexpected, terminations of lawful immigration status that are impacting international students at Rutgers and across the United States. International students, scholars, and faculty are deeply valued members of the Rutgers community and the university is committed to providing support during this time. Rutgers Global has created a global alerts webpage that is updated with resources and guidance regarding issues related to travel advisories, immigration policies, and regulatory updates that impact international students and scholars, as well as domestic students and faculty traveling abroad. Visit the Global Alerts webpage [**HERE**](#).

Student Basic Needs: Emergency Aid Fund

The Rutgers Emergency Aid Fund provides RU-New Brunswick students with one-time need-based financial support for unforeseen, unavoidable, and unplanned costs associated with emergencies like accidents, illnesses, fire and water damage, or the need for emergency housing or food. International and undocumented students are eligible to apply for the Emergency Aid Fund. Click [**HERE**](#) for more information and to find the application for Emergency Aid.

Resource Webpage for Pregnant and Parenting Graduate Students

The Office of Graduate Student Life, in partnership with the Office of Title IX & Compliance and the Supporting Parents & Caregivers at Rutgers (SPCR) Graduate Student Organization, recently launched a new resource webpage for pregnant and parenting graduate students! This webpage serves as a platform for helping pregnant and parenting students locate resources, policies, support services, and community engagement opportunities available at Rutgers University and in the local community. Click [**HERE**](#) to visit the webpage.

Join a Graduate Student Affinity Group

Looking to get connected with other graduate students and participate in a fun and supportive community? Consider joining a peer-designed, peer-facilitated affinity group! Affinity groups are affirming spaces to build community with peers who share experiences, backgrounds, and social identities and connect with peers for personal and professional support and around shared interests. Six graduate affinity groups are being offered this semester: African Graduate Students, BIPOC LGBTQIA2S+ Graduate Students, Chinese Graduate Students, Rutgers International Graduate Students (RINGS), Southeast Asian Graduate Students (SEA), and Supporting Neurodiversity at Rutgers. To read descriptions for each group and meet the student facilitators for each group to see which group(s) are a good fit for you click [**HERE**](#). Contact Dean Ghada

Endick, gendick@echo.rutgers.edu or Program Assistant, Zoey Eddy ze26@scarletmail.rutgers.edu with any questions.

Academic, Employment, and Student Support Resources on the Graduate Student Life Website

Looking for additional graduate student resources, services, or support? Check out the resource pages on our website! Find information on [Academic Support Resources](#), [Career & Professional Development](#), [Student Support Services & Resources](#) and more on our website!

Do you have an opportunity for graduate students that you would like to promote in the Graduate Student Life Weekly Digest? Submit it [HERE](#)!