



## **Graduate Student Life Digest Special Edition Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week 2024**

Graduate Appreciation Week March 29 - April 9 is a recognition and celebration of the outstanding contributions and accomplishments of YOU, our graduate and professional students at Rutgers-New Brunswick! The week kicks off tomorrow with an APIDA Grad Student Social and Friendship Friday, check out the full list of events [HERE](#) and make sure to follow Graduate Student Life on Instagram [@rugradstudentlife](#) throughout the week! Events are open to all graduate and professional students.

### **Signature Appreciation Event:**

- [Knight at the Museum: Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Reception](#) Wednesday April 3rd \* 4:30 - 7:30pm. [RSVP](#) Today.

**Thank a Grad for Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week!**

**Thank a Grad [HERE](#) until April 7!**

Recognize the amazing graduate and professional students in your life by submitting a thank you note during Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week! Use [THIS](#) link to send a Thank-A-Grad note until April 7 that can be featured on the Graduate Student Life website.

## **EVENTS**

### **– FRIDAY, MARCH 29 –**

**GPSA Week: Asian, Pacific Islander, Desi, and Arab (APIDA) Graduate Student Social & Friendship Friday – Friday, March 29, 3pm-5pm**

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

Asian, Pacific, Islander, Desi and Arab (APIDA) and International graduate students are invited to join the Asian American Cultural Center and Rutgers Global at the APIDA Grad Social to kick off graduate student appreciation week! Join your fellow graduate, professional students and doctoral candidates at the Asian American Cultural Center to enjoy amazing cultural food, trivia games, free swag and the offerings of Friendship Friday by Rutgers Global. Please contact Naima Chowdhury [naimach@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:naimach@echo.rutgers.edu) with any questions. **NOTE:** Anyone observing Ramadan and fasting, will have the opportunity to take food with them!

### **– MONDAY, APRIL 1 –**

**School of Graduate Studies - Biomedical and Health Sciences invitation: Graduate Student Appreciation Lunch: Efes Mediterranean Grill – Monday, April 1, 12 pm-2 pm**

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

Register to attend [HERE](#) (scroll for lunch registration)!

All graduate and professional students are invited to enjoy a delicious lunch catered by Efes Mediterranean Grill hosted by the School of Graduate Studies - Biomedical and Health Sciences and sponsored by the Office of Graduate Student Life.

### – TUESDAY, APRIL 2 –

**“Toward Belonging: Sisterhood and Community Building” in *Gifted Black Women Navigating the Doctoral Process: Sister Insider*, Book Chapter Talk and Q&A with Dr. Joan Collier – Tuesday, April 2, 4:30pm-6:30pm**

Location: Graduate Student Lounge, 126 College Ave (Behind Panera Bread), College Ave Campus

**Register to attend [HERE!](#)**

Join Dr. Joan Collier as she discusses her chapter "Toward Belonging: Sisterhood and Community Building" in the book *Gifted Black Women Navigating the Doctoral Process: Sister Insider*, followed by a Q&A. Joan Collier, PhD serves as Assistant Vice President for Equity and Inclusion and is an Affiliate Faculty in the PhD in Higher Education program in the Graduate School of Education. This event is sponsored by the Paul Robeson Cultural Center, Office of Graduate Student Life, and Graduate Student Association and will feature food catered by Efes Mediterranean Grill.

### – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3 –

**Graduate Student Appreciation: Coffee and Conversations – Wednesday, April 3, 9am-11am**

Location: Graduate Student Lounge, 126 College Ave (Behind Panera Bread), College Ave Campus

**Register to attend [HERE!](#)**

Join the Graduate Student Association (GSA) for a delightful morning of conversations and a delicious meal to show appreciation to our graduate students! Whether you are looking to kickstart a busy day or savor a leisurely morning, the GSA would be delighted to host you! Please contact [help@gsa.rutgers.edu](mailto:help@gsa.rutgers.edu) with any questions.

**School of Management and Labor Relations Information, Networking, and Giveaway Table - Wednesday, April 3, 2 pm-4 pm**

Location: Labor Education Center (50 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, Cook Campus)

The School of Management and Labor Relations (SMLR) is hosting a networking and giveaway event at the historic Labor Education Center on Cook Campus for all their SMLR graduate students. Drop by and meet up with Francis Ryan (Director of the MLER program and Labor Historian) and staff to learn about the building and the history it has made with the NJ Labor movement. They will host a table of giveaways and an opportunity to meet other SMLR students to discuss your graduate specialties within the Master of Labor and Employment Relations and the Master of Human Resource Management. They invite all those SMLR students who have yet to explore the LEC to come for an open house visit on Cook Campus.

**Research Café – Wednesday, April 3, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Location: Zoom

**Register [HERE!](#)**

Join PhD Candidates Courtney R. McDermott, Geordan Stuke, and Sandra Manfreda for their exciting research presentations “Early life alterations to the gut microbiome and its effects on neurodevelopment and behavior,” “PA phosphatase Pah1 contains a novel RP domain that regulates its phosphorylation and function in yeast lipid synthesis,” and “Do They Like Me? The implication of (Meta-)Stereotypes on Inter-gendered Interactions In STEM.” Research Café is a monthly gathering place for graduate students across disciplinary areas to share their research and benefit from peer feedback and support in a

friendly, low-stakes setting. Please register to attend on Zoom. To view the full schedule of presentations taking place this semester, click [HERE](#). Contact Dr. Briana Bivens [briana.bivens@rutgers.edu](mailto:briana.bivens@rutgers.edu) with any questions.

### **Make Your Own Sleep Kit – Wednesday, April 3rd, 3:30 - 5:00pm**

Location: Graduate Student Lounge, 126 College Ave (Behind Panera Bread), College Ave Campus

Stop in and join Rutgers Health, Outreach, Promotion & Education, along with your peers, as we examine how changes to our nightly routine can improve sleep habits naturally. Have fun creating soothing sleep masks and a sleep kit to help you relax and get some quality zzzzzz time! All attendees will receive free swag and a sweet treat!

### **Knight at the Museum: Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Reception – Wednesday, April 3, 4:30 pm-7:30 pm**

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

*Parking & Transportation: Metered street parking is available, students with Rutgers parking passes can park in their respective lots and take the bus to the “The Yard (Scott Hall)” stop on College Ave. Click [HERE](#) to find parking lot information for your type of Rutgers parking pass and click [HERE](#) for information about each bus route. Download the Passio Go! app for real-time campus bus information.*

**Register to attend [HERE](#)!**

Join the Graduate Student Association and the Office of Graduate Student Life for the signature event of the week! Explore the museum and mingle with your fellow graduate students while enjoying live jazz music and a signature mocktail! You won't want to miss this spectacular evening filled with free food, live music, and prizes including a \$100 target gift card! **Note:** Anyone observing Ramadan and fasting, will have the opportunity to take food with them.

### **Graduate Student Yoga & Giveaway – Wednesday, April 3, 5–6pm**

Location: Graduate Student Lounge, 126 College Ave (Behind Panera Bread), College Ave Campus

*Graduate Yoga is part of the [Life @ The Graduate Student Lounge Event Series](#) and is held every Wednesday.*

Stop by the Graduate Student Lounge this Wednesday for a special session of graduate student yoga for Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week and receive a special giveaway! Take a pause from your busy week by practicing Yoga and relax your mind and body with your fellow graduate students. Hosted by Rutgers Recreation and Office of Graduate Student Life. No Registration Needed. Yoga mats and blocks are provided, and all skill levels are welcome! Email [gradstudentlife@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:gradstudentlife@echo.rutgers.edu) with any questions.

### **Residence Life Bingo Bash! – Wednesday, April 3, 8pm-9pm Open to all residential graduate students**

Location: BEST West Residence Hall, MPR, (50 Bevier Rd, Piscataway, Busch Campus)

Join Rutgers Residence Life for an exciting evening of music, food, refreshments, and prizes! A riveting game of bingo will be played and each round increases in difficulty while also having the prizes increase in worth, all to show appreciation to our graduate students! Come unwind after a long day of class or enjoy some friendly competition!

## **– THURSDAY, APRIL 4 –**

### **Elijah's Promise Service Day for Graduate Students– Thursday, April 4, 11am-1pm (while supplies last)**

Location: Graduate Student Lounge, 126 College Ave (Behind Panera Bread), College Ave Campus

Elijah's Promise Community Kitchen uses the power of food within our job training curriculum, social service assistance to individuals and families, community focused nutrition classes, social enterprise food businesses, and by providing over 375,000 free meals a year. Join us as we support this great community

partner by making much-needed hygiene kits. Learn more about the great work they do and how you can get involved in service and community engagement as a student at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. This event is hosted by the Office of Student Volunteer Engagement, Student Centers, and Activities and sponsored by Graduate Student Life and Graduate Student Association. Please contact Karen Ardizzone at [volunteer@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:volunteer@echo.rutgers.edu) with any questions.

**Safe(R) Space Training for Graduate Students (Part 2) – Thursday, April 4, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

Location: Graduate Student Lounge, 126 College Ave (Behind Panera Bread), College Ave Campus

**Register [HERE!](#)**

Safe(R) Space is a campus program that supports LGBTQIA+ individuals by identifying support resources and providing allies with comprehensive training. This program is part of ongoing efforts to create a campus culture that celebrates diversity and promotes equity for all. This two-part training will explore the importance of creating safe and affirming spaces on campus and provide guidance on how to establish and maintain these spaces. Together, we can build a more inclusive Rutgers community where everyone feels welcomed, supported, and celebrated. Contact Darnell L. Thompson [dt527@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:dt527@echo.rutgers.edu) with questions regarding training content, or Dean Ghada Endick [gendick@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:gendick@echo.rutgers.edu) with general questions.

**Virtual Guided Meditation and Mindfulness Session – Thursday, April 4, 1pm-1:30pm & Friday, April 5, 10:30am-11am**

Location: Zoom

**Join the 1pm Thursday, April 4 Session [HERE](#) & Join the 10:30am Friday, April 5 Session [HERE!](#)**

Join CAPS counselor Dana Simons and your peers for a virtual guided meditation and mindfulness session. Focus on the here and now without judgment, and practice mindfulness meditation exercises. Join on or off camera for sessions held on Thursday, April 4 and Friday, April 5.

**Virtual Panel Discussion & Networking Session: Non-Academic Careers for International PhDs and Postdocs in the US – Thursday, April 4, 4pm-5:30pm**

Location: Zoom

**Register to attend [HERE!](#)**

Join the Memorial Sloan Kettering Office of Career and Professional Development and INet NYC for this exciting virtual panel discussion and networking session! This panel will focus specifically on career opportunities outside of academia for international doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows and visa sponsorship and green card options for international researchers pursuing non-academic careers. While this event has a focus on opportunities for international researchers, the event is open to everyone, and ALL graduate students and postdoc researchers are welcome to attend: international scholars, citizens, and permanent residents. Hosted by Dr. Aysegul Gungor Aydin, Postdoctoral Research Associate and President | Rutgers Postdoctoral Association. (All registrants will receive the Zoom meeting link via email on the day of the event)

**LGBTQIA+ Graduate Student Social & GAYpril SparkNight at the Zimmerli – Thursday, April 4, 4:30pm-8pm**

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

**RSVP to attend the LGBTQIA+ Graduate Student Social [HERE!](#)**

Join the Center for Social Justice Education and LGBT Communities (SJE) at the Zimmerli's GAYpril SparkNight for their final Graduate Student Social of the spring semester! This evening will be dedicated to celebrating LGBTQIA+ Pride at Rutgers University and in the New Brunswick community and will showcase the Queer art of drag as well as the important contributions of Queer artists who participated

in Windows of Understanding. Stop by for drag performances, an artmaking workshop, pop-up tours, a photo booth, and more! Light complimentary refreshments will be provided and food will be available for purchase from food trucks. SparkNight is free and open to the public, click [HERE](#) for more information about GAYpril SparkNight at the Zimmerli.

### – FRIDAY, APRIL 5 –

**Virtual Guided Meditation and Mindfulness Session – Thursday, April 4, 1pm-1:30pm & Friday, April 5, 10:30am-11am**

Location: Zoom

**Join the 1pm Thursday, April 4 Session [HERE](#) & Join the 10:30am Friday, April 5 Session [HERE](#)!**

Join CAPS counselor Dana Simons and your peers for a virtual guided meditation and mindfulness session. Focus on the here and now without judgment, and practice mindfulness meditation exercises. Join on or off camera for sessions held on Thursday, April 4 and Friday, April 5.

### – TUESDAY, APRIL 9 –

**Well-being Listening Session - Tuesday, April 9, 6pm - 7:30pm**

Location: Graduate Student Lounge, 126 College Avenue (Behind Panera)

***Registration Link will be posted in Digest and Website on Monday April 1st.***

Join the Graduate Student Association, Office of Graduate Student Life and Rutgers Student Health for this listening session, a space dedicated to hearing from students across Rutgers – NB graduate schools to better understand your overall well-being needs and to brainstorm new approaches and strategies. We will ask you to share about unique challenges you are faced with as you navigate the demands of your academic journeys, help us identify where supports that can be strengthened and brainstorm new strategies collectively. Your voices and perspectives are critical in shaping future initiatives to support your thriving at Rutgers.

### – WEEKLONG –

**Rutgers School of Public Health: Alumni April Series Events**

Join the School of Public Health's Office for Career Services, as they gear up to host their fourth annual *Alumni April* series! Throughout the month of April, Rutgers School of Public Health faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members are invited to attend networking events and career panels designed to help students and alumni make new professional connections and learn more about post-graduate career options and experiences in the field of public health. Explore the exciting career pathways available to graduate and professional students in the field of public health! The virtual events featured below are open to all graduate students across the graduate schools! Contact Claire Brown, Director for Student Experiences & Alumni Affairs, at [sphcareers@sph.rutgers.edu](mailto:sphcareers@sph.rutgers.edu), with any questions. Click [HERE](#) to view the full list of Alumni April Events.

**PHirst Generation Alumni – Tuesday, April 2, 12-1pm**

**Register to attend on Zoom [HERE](#)!**

**Credentialing Your Career - Health Officer & Civil Service Pathways – Tuesday, April 2, 5-6pm**

**Register to attend on Zoom [HERE](#)!**

**Pride in Public Health with Stonewall Alliance for Health – Wednesday, April 3, 1-2pm**

**Register to attend on Zoom [HERE](#)!**

**Linkages to Leadership (Doctoral-Level Alumni) – Thursday, April 4, 12-1pm**

**Register to attend on Zoom [HERE](#)!**

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