

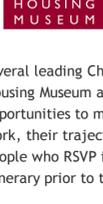
PATHS

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND TRAINING FOR HUMANITIES SCHOLARS



PATHS Newsletter

This newsletter features career resources and upcoming professional development opportunities for Ph.D. students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences at the University of Chicago.



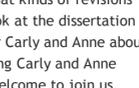
Career Exploration Trek to Chicago Cultural Institutions

Friday May 10, 2019, 10:00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Are you a Ph.D. student in the humanities or social sciences who is curious about career opportunities in museums and cultural institutions? If so, consider joining this day-long PATHS trek to several leading Chicago-area organizations. Host sites include the National Public Housing Museum and DANK Haus German American Cultural Center. You'll have opportunities to meet with Ph.D. recipients in a variety of roles and learn about their work, their trajectories, and their current institutions. Space is limited to the first 15 people who RSVP in [GRAD Gargoyle](#) (Events > GRAD Events). Registrants will receive an itinerary prior to the visit.

From Dissertation to Book: A Conversation with EALC Alumni

Friday, April 19th, 2019, 12:00-2:00 p.m., Cobb 302



This EALC professionalization workshop will be centered on questions about the transformation of dissertation into book. Two recent EALC alumni (Carly Buxton and Anne Rebull) will be joining us to discuss their own experiences with this process. What are the mechanics of this transformation? What kinds of revisions and rewrites take place? Should one be thinking about the book at the dissertation stage? If so, then how? Any graduate students with questions for Carly and Anne about the book-to-dissertation process, or who are interested in hearing Carly and Anne speak about their experiences going through this process, are welcome to join us. Lunch will be served! RSVP by emailing Yueling Ji at jyueling@uchicago.edu or Ethan Waddell at ewaddell@uchicago.edu.

Managing your Digital Files and Photographs

Tuesday, May 7, 12:30-1:30 p.m., UChicagoGRAD HQ (3rd floor UChicago Bookstore)



Whether your data are digital photos of archival records or spreadsheets, this session will provide you with practical tips for naming, organizing, documenting, storing and preserving your data. Making a plan for managing your data and digital files can save you time and potential headaches in the long-run. In this workshop, led by the UChicago Library's Nora Mattern, we'll begin creating data management plans for a current project and talk through challenges and lessons you've learned about effective strategies for managing your digital files. RSVP in [GRAD Gargoyle](#) (Events > GRAD Events).

Pathway to College Teaching Careers Mini-Conference



Friday, May 17, 2019, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Ida Noyes Library and Library Lounge

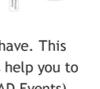
Navigating from a graduate program or postdoc into a teaching position can be both an exciting professional and intellectual experience as well as a challenging, uncertain transition. After spending many years at one particular institution, how can you understand the teaching cultures at different institutions and how to demonstrate fit? And once in a new position, what do teaching and other professional responsibilities look like and how do they compare to your experience at UChicago?

This event will provide graduate students and postdocs the opportunity to explore what it means to pursue a teaching career at a diverse group of institutions. In panels and small group lunch discussions, alumni from Chicago-area institutions and faculty from several liberal arts colleges will provide insight into the relevant skills and experiences that University of Chicago graduate students and postdocs might cultivate to prepare for successful teaching careers at a variety of institution types. They will also discuss how best to demonstrate and communicate these skills and experiences to hiring committees.

Light breakfast and lunch will be served. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED via [GRAD Gargoyle](#).

Building Your Academic Network

Tuesday, May 7, 2019, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



A strong academic network can help you discover funding, publishing, and job opportunities; recruit outside readers; develop conference panels; trade teaching tips; and more. Cultivating this network can begin at any point in your graduate career--in fact, you may be surprised at the number of academic connections you already have. This workshop will help you make the most of these connections as well as help you to expand your academic network. RSVP in [GRAD Gargoyle](#) (Events > GRAD Events).

Teaching Jobs in the Writing Program 2019-2020

Spring application round now open!



Deadline: Monday, May 6 at 1:00 p.m.

The Writing Program is hiring Writing Interns, Lectors, and Tutors for teaching appointments in 2019-20. Graduate students from ALL departments and divisions are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit the Writing Program website and download our application packet [here](#).

PATHS/Area Studies Centers Public Lectureship Prize

Application Deadline: Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Are you a Ph.D. student working on Latin America, East Asia, the Middle East, or Eastern Europe and Russia/Eurasia? Are you interested in improving your public speaking skills by presenting your research to community audiences? Apply for the PATHS/Area Studies Centers Public Lectureship Prize to share your global expertise with local populations. Recipients will receive a \$250 stipend and logistical support for planning a talk at a Chicago-area school, public library, or other community venue. Recipients will also engage in required GRADTalk public speaking training as they prepare for their presentations. To apply, send your CV, an abstract of your proposed 45-minute presentation, and a short (250 words or less) explanation of how your proposed topic would engage and inform a general audience to paths@uchicago.edu. Applications for this round must be received by Wednesday, May 1, 2019.

GRADUCon 2019 Panel Recaps



In case you missed these panels or couldn't make it to GRADUCon this year...

GRADUCon's "Careers in Publishing and Editing" panel exposed attendees to a broad range of career possibilities in these fields. The panelists represented the Art Institute of Chicago, the University of Chicago Press, the Journal of the American Medical Association, and Condé Nast. As alumnae of UChicago graduate programs in the humanities, each panelist was in a unique position to offer current students, graduates, and postdocs advice on how to enter this world as well as the types of skills that are valued and used on a daily basis.

Each panelist emphasized the positive role their graduate degrees had in setting them up for their respective careers. Graduate students think critically, research, read, edit, and write frequently, and these are the exact kinds of skills that transfer well to the world of publishing and editing. In academia, many of these skills are carried out in isolation, but professionals in publishing and editing careers beyond the academy use them in more collaborative capacities. For panelist [Amanda Ehrhardt](#), who serves as a Manuscript Editor for the Journal of the American Medical Association, UChicago's training sharpened her abilities in diplomatic professional communication—a valuable skill she uses when liaising with senior scholars and medical professionals. [Gregory Nosan](#), Executive Director of Publishing at the Art Institute of Chicago and [Susannah Engstrom](#), an Editorial Assistant at the University of Chicago Press, both stressed that while grad school trained them to be specialists, their current roles allow them to be generalists and work across disciplines—an aspect of their work they very much enjoy and find liberating. For [Brooke Marine](#), Associate Digital Editor at W Magazine, her training in critical theory inspires her articles aimed at general audiences. These ideas, of course, need to be framed differently to suit the intended reading audience.

For current students interested in finding out more, or for those who are determined to enter this industry, the panelists stressed the importance of amassing as much information as possible. Carry out informational interviews. Seek out individuals in senior positions to act as mentors. Make sure you do your research before reaching out to potential mentors—what are your specific interests? What questions do you have?

The panel on "Education and Literacy Nonprofits" featured representatives of the Chicago Literacy Alliance (Ken Bigger), the Chicago Humanities Festival (Alison Cuddy), Skokie Public Library (Mimosa Shah), and Open Books (Maria Vиейtez), and was moderated by Margaret Fink, Assistant Director of UChicago Writing Programs.

Introductions revealed that each panelist's work is public-facing, collaborative, and developed unexpectedly: Bigger graduated UChicago with a PhD from the Divinity School, and, after a series of jobs in fundraising, he became the executive director of Chicago Literacy Alliance, where he supervises a leadership team and puts to good use his academic training and background in fundraising. Cuddy received an MA from the University of Pittsburgh and worked in radio, including Chicago's publicistic "Eight-Forty-Eight" weekday news magazine show, and currently serves as artistic director of the Chicago Humanities Festival, which uses the humanities as a lens to talk about what's going on in the world, largely through conversation-based programming. Shah, currently the Adult Program Coordinator for Skokie Public Library, earned her MA from UChicago in 2012, although she first started the degree ten years prior. Life happens, and Shah had to take hiatus from graduate school. That hiatus turned into a decade of eclectic jobs, a stint in France, the start of her own family—a meandering route that eventually brought her back to Chicago and into her current position. Vиейtez, a recent MAPH graduate from UChicago, started volunteering at Open Books during her degree and that led to a full-time job as Program Coordinator for the new Dolly Parton Imagination Library initiative. Vиейtez is returning to graduate school at Northwestern in the fall, where she will be starting a PhD in English.

All of the panelists emphasized the role of serendipity in how their careers have unfolded. Bigger intended to become a teacher and researcher after graduate school but gravitated towards fundraising when he was working as an adjunct. As it turns out, he had a knack for fundraising and enjoys engaging with complex ideas and initiatives and communicating them in an effective way. Bigger cited advice from one of his mentors: "Do that thing that without you would not get done." Shah described how she carved out her own position from within the organization, allowing her to teach digital literacy, collaborate with twenty staff, and develop and run several thousand programs a year. She loves helping people find resources in the library and in each other. Although Vиейtez is headed back to graduate school, she plans to continue working in multiple spheres; spending time at Open Books during MAPH helped her to unwind, reflect, and participate in a community beyond the university.

The panel's parting advice for current graduate students:

- Know what you love and value. Not everything in your life needs to be instrumentalized towards career gain; some things are simply to be revelled in!
- Be excited not just to get that job but to actually do it.
- Cultivate side-hustles!
- Learn how to communicate about ideas outside of formal structures.
- Network so that people know you and might build a job around you.
- Mobilize the skills you are developing in graduate school towards all kinds of possible careers skills: your ability to collaborate, to deeply research, and to empathize with others in order to better address problems will go a long way in any career setting.

Reading List

- [Unexpected Careers](#) from Chronicle Vitae
- [Who Are You Trying To Impress?](#) from The Chronicle of Higher Education
- [Build Your Own Professional Utopia](#) from Connected Academics

Submit to the PATHS Newsletter

If you are hosting a relevant event that you would like featured in this newsletter, please send the event information to paths@uchicago.edu.



Helping you navigate your graduate and postdoctoral career

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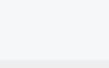
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