

# GRADFAIR 2019 RECAP

UChicagoGRAD's fifth annual GRADFair took place on Thursday, October 17, 2019 in Ida Noye Hall. GRADFair is the **only** cross-disciplinary career fair exclusively for graduate students and postdocs. This year, GRADFair was attended by **550+ graduate students and postdocs** and **47 employers**. GRADFair is unique for two main reasons:

- **GRAD & POSTDOC SPECIFIC:** While many schools open their undergraduate career fairs to graduate students, GRADFair is attended by employer representatives who are specifically recruiting for advanced-degree roles.
- **CROSS-DISCIPLINARY:** By including the entire graduate community, GRADFair encourages participants and employers to expand their views of job possibilities and appropriate fit.

## GRADFAIR 2019 BY THE NUMBERS

GRADFair 2019 was attended by over **960 participants:**

- 696** Student and postdoc attendees
- 47** Partner organizations
- 134** Individual employer representatives
- 21** New partner organizations this year
- 26** Returning partner organizations
- 36** Alumni returning as employer reps

| Division/School       | Master's   | PhD       | Postdoc   | Other     | Total      |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Biological Sciences   |            | 12        | 13        | 4         | 29         |
| Business School       | 1          | 4         |           |           | 5          |
| Divinity School       | 1          | 4         |           |           | 5          |
| Continuing Ed.        | 137        |           |           | 3         | 140        |
| Public Policy         | 76         |           |           |           | 76         |
| Humanities            | 14         | 7         |           |           | 21         |
| Molecular Engineering |            | 14        | 3         |           | 17         |
| Law School            |            |           |           | 1         | 1          |
| Medicine              |            | 1         |           | 1         | 2          |
| Physical Sciences     | 107        | 37        | 6         | 1         | 151        |
| Social Service Admin. | 1          |           |           |           | 1          |
| Social Sciences       | 106        | 8         |           |           | 114        |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>443</b> | <b>87</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>562</b> |



### CAREER FAIR:

The three-and-a-half hour career fair was attended by over 550 graduate level trainees and 47 industry, nonprofit, and government employers. UChicagoGRAD offered a workshop the week prior to the fair to help students and postdocs prepare to make the most of their experience.



### PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS:

GRADFair offers graduate students and postdocs the opportunity to obtain a free professional headshot for their LinkedIn profile or website during the event. At GRADFair 2019, 254 attendees had their photos taken.



# GRADFAIR 2018 PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Follow-up surveys were sent to the **562** student/postdoc participants and **134** individual employer representatives. Employers were also reminded about other recruitment opportunities including info sessions, on-campus interviews, and UChicagoGRAD's job board.



## STUDENTS/POSTDOCS:

- 56%** Of respondents planned to complete their current program in 2020
- 4** Employer booths were visited by each student/postdoc, on average
- 2** Avg. number of employers with which each respondent planned to follow up
- 80%** Of respondents discovered at least one new organization that interests them

## EMPLOYERS:

- 78%** Of respondents prioritize graduate-level talent when hiring new employees
- 75%** Believe grad & undergrad recruitment require distinctly different approaches
- 95%** Planned to follow up with specific students/postdocs they met
- 62%** Had interactions that made them consider candidates from new disciplines

## GRADFair 2019 Employer Participants: