

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
Total	443	87	22	10	562



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: