



IMPACT OPPORTUNITIES TO

Advance the Humanities and the Arts Through Graduate Education

More than 700 graduate students at Michigan are pursuing degrees in the humanities and the arts, fields in which graduate studies are increasingly demanding cross-disciplinary exchange, interdisciplinary experiences and degree credentials. Humanists at Michigan are exploring fields as varied as romance languages, classical studies, and music theory, and Rackham is committed to supporting humanities graduate students in building the skills necessary to be successful in their career development during their Michigan experience and as they transition into their first jobs.

Career development involves supporting students in assessing their interests and skills,

and in actively exploring career fields of interest through networking, mentorship, and gaining relevant professional experiences to expand one's competencies. Graduate student internships provide excellent opportunities to connect students' academic and research experiences with their personal career aspirations.

As a donor focused on the humanities, you have the opportunity to support new learning opportunities and transformational discoveries for graduate students in this space.



Program Support

Public Engagement in the Humanities Workshop \$3 Million endowed/\$150,000 expendable

Graduate students and faculty in the humanities increasingly bring a commitment to public engagement to their work. The Public Engagement in the Humanities Workshop helps to support these interests by providing resources in the form of funding, training, and connections to a wider public humanities ecosystem in Michigan through site visits. The program helps graduate students cultivate public humanities endeavors with partner organizations outside the university while co-learning alongside faculty. By training current faculty and future faculty in the best principles of public engagement, the workshop helps demonstrate the value of the humanities inside and outside the academy.

How Your Support Helps

Graduate students and faculty often struggle to find funding, time, and a sense of community to support their community-based and public facing research projects. Providing dedicated stipends, time and space, and training will help advance the work of publicly-engaged scholars on campus by valuing their work in the same ways other forms of research are supported. With Mellon funding ending after August 2020, your support will help sustain our commitment to humanities students devoted to serving the public good.

Action Based Challenge Grants for Rackham Graduate Students

\$100,000 endowed/\$5,000 to \$100,000 expendable

A key component of exploration and discovery is catalyzing innovative ideas across the university. Challenge grants encourage students to reach across traditional disciplines, build action-based teams, and accelerate robust research projects.

How Your Support Helps

Donor-provided seed funding will ensure the most promising ideas, addressing pressing problems from poverty to global climate change, move forward to make an impact.



Student Support

Graduate education is crucial to Michigan's excellence as a research university. However, creation of knowledge and the discovery of global solutions require significant resources. Philanthropic gifts for students in the humanities make a Rackham degree accessible for many talented students who might otherwise not be able to afford to attend the country's number-one public research institution. Your generosity plays a critical role in allowing students in the humanities to thrive not only during their time here on campus, but for years after they have graduated.

Career Excursions and Treks

\$1 Million endowed/\$50,000 expendable

We know from employers that relevant experience is critical to help students secure their first job. Rackham has successfully piloted experiential learning opportunities in Michigan, from one to several days, to explore a workplace and the opportunities involved in a specific organization or career. We would like to expand these opportunities beyond Southeast Michigan to enable us to engage in career excursions at employers across the country that are most likely to hire graduate students. Students will be able to travel from campus to sites in small groups to engage in career-related training sessions and alumni and employer networking events.

How Your Support Helps

Donor funding will allow Rackham to support student travel, lodging, and hosting costs associated with these opportunities.



In-Academic Term Internships

\$500,000 endowed/\$25,000 expendable per term

In-academic term internships provide a valuable learning alternative to time traditionally spent as a graduate student instructor or research assistant. A full-term internship provides the opportunity for students to develop their practical skills in non-academic settings. Participants receive tuition, fees, and GradCare health insurance, as well as a work plan and site agreement consultation with the Rackham Professional and Academic Development team. These experiences allow students to build competency in applying their research skills to real-world problems.

How Your Support Helps

Funding for graduate in-academic term internships will help support students in the humanities and arts with funding, including travel and living expenses, as well as stipends for students in unpaid internships.

Summer Graduate Internship Opportunities

\$250,000 endowed/\$10,000 expendable per student

Internships prepare Rackham students to tackle the world's most complex problems, gather information from many sources, and communicate solutions to experts and non-experts alike. Students hone their practical skills in real-world situations by participating in internships across the United States and in countries around the world. These opportunities allow graduate students to apply their skills in tangible ways and gain experience that will lead to future career possibilities, while linking their academic work with important practical challenges.

How Your Support Helps

Funding during the summer allows graduate students to collect data, accept unpaid internships in their area of professional expertise, or pursue partnerships with government, industry, or community organizations. Your gift will allow students to pursue opportunities for summer internships, easing the stress of travel and living expenses, and provide stipends for students in unpaid roles.



Strategic Support

Rackham Annual Strategic Funds \$10,000 to \$50,000 expendable

Expendable, undesignated gifts are extraordinarily important to transforming the graduate student experience at Michigan. Contributions to one of Rackham’s annual strategic funds make it possible to meet a variety of needs and challenges, including academic scholarship, research, equitable access, and experiential learning for Rackham graduate students at the master’s or doctoral level and help them prepare for careers of quality and impact.

Ways to Fund Your Gift

Your gifts of cash, pledges, appreciated securities, qualified charitable contributions, or gifts from donor advised funds change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will make it possible for the best and brightest minds to complete a graduate degree, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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