Communication, Writing & Editing Careers - Graduate education provides research and analytical skills, as well as subject matter expertise, that can be vital preparation for a wide range of careers in communications, journalism and writing/editing.

**Abby Robinson**

Abby Robinson is assistant dean of communications in UMD’s College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences. She leads a communications team responsible for media relations, internal and external communications, video production, social media, publications, event and marketing materials, websites, and more. Prior to this role, she served as a science writer at Georgia Tech and as a freelance writer. In 2005, she was a AAAS Mass Media Science & Engineering Fellow. Robinson completed her B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in biological resources engineering at UMD, and she conducted research for her master’s and doctoral degrees at the National Institutes of Health.

**Carol Corneilse**

Carol Corneilse grew up in Cape Town, South Africa and first came to the United States on an undergraduate scholarship. After college, she briefly taught high school English in Cape Town and then moved into university administration. She returned to the US to begin a PhD in Education Policy at the University of Maryland, which she completed in 2009. Since 2013, Carol has been a freelance education consultant, editor, and independent researcher. Projects have included workshops on cultural competence, evaluation of international leadership programs, several Masters and doctoral dissertations, and research on student activism in the US and South Africa.

**Sarah (Ahlbrand) Ellinwood**

Sarah is an associate analyst and medical writer at Verge Scientific Communications, a strategic communications firm in Tysons, VA that helps up-and-coming biotech and healthcare companies develop their scientific message and story. She received her PhD from the UMD Biological Sciences graduate program in 2017. Prior to joining Verge, she was a regulatory medical writer at Technical Resources International and wrote clinical study protocols and regulatory documents in support of NIH-sponsored cancer clinical trials. Sarah also serves on the national communications committee for Women In Bio, a nonprofit organization promoting professional development for women in the life sciences.

**Stanley Dambroski**

Stanley Dambroski received his Ph.D. in English, specializing in composition and rhetoric. He works as a public affairs specialist at the National Science Foundation. He has served as a speechwriter at NSF and several other federal government agencies. He is an Adjunct Professor at the University of
Maryland University College. He has also taught at UMCP and Johns Hopkins and is a trainer in the Plain Language Action and Information Network. His exciting saga of working for the government all started with a posting on UMCP’s first-year-writing listserv. In addition to his love of language, he loves to play music.

Scientific & Technical Career Pathways - This panel a diverse mix of scientific and technical professionals and organizations. The tech and science world has opportunities for PhDs from a wide range of disciplines.

Amanda Forster

Amanda Forster is a materials research engineer in the Material Measurement Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. She has published numerous papers related to the long term stability of polymeric materials used in body armor and methods for body armor testing. She is the chair of ASTM Subcommittee E54.92 and is an active participant in ASTM. Dr. Forster has a passion for STEM outreach and education of junior scientists. She has hosted and mentored students of all levels from various countries and universities. She currently serves as one of the NIST Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship directors.

Anand Ramanathan

Anand Ramanathan’s career path has taken him from a Chemical physics PhD at UMD to government and industry roles. Post-phd, he joined as a Postdoctoral Fellow at NASA and spent 6 years working on greenhouse gas remote sensing. Following that, Anand joined Capital One as a Data Scientist applying his scientific skills to solve industry problems. Anand's experiences have given him a good perspective on what it takes to navigate different workplace cultures and how an academic background can be a asset in industry careers.

Chandria Jones

Dr. Chandria Jones, Senior Study Director at Westat, has nearly 15 years of research and evaluation experience in public health focusing on youth-related areas such as behavioral health, homelessness, obesity, health disparities, and health communication. Trained in epidemiology and behavioral and community health, her research focuses on social and environmental determinants of health for vulnerable populations such as racial and ethnic minorities, low-income youth and families, and individuals with mental health and substance use disorders. Dr. Jones bring a lens of racial equity, diversity, and inclusion to her with work a particular commitment to use-oriented approaches leading to social justice and health equity.

Katrina Groth
Katrina Groth is an Assistant Professor in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maryland. She received her Ph.D. in reliability engineering from the University of Maryland in 2009. Dr. Groth leads UMD’s Systems Risk and Reliability Analysis Laboratory (SyRRA). Her research enhances the safety, reliability, and security of complex systems, ranging from hydrogen vehicle infrastructure, to aviation, to power plants. Before joining UMD as faculty, she spent seven years as a researcher in risk and reliability analysis at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM. Dr. Groth is also a trustee for the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History.

Kenneth Bell

Dr. Bell joined the Bechtel Group in 1980 while completing his PhD program at the University of Maryland, where he had also received his BS and MS degrees. He has recently retired from Bechtel as a full time employee while continuing to do consulting work for them. During his career with Bechtel Dr. Bell climbed through the ranks starting as a staff geotechnical engineer to position of Chief Geotechnical Engineer. Dr. Bell was recognized at Bechtel as a Bechtel Fellow, the highest honor for a technical specialist, and by industry reaching the rank of Fellow by both the American Society of Civil Engineers and ASTM International. In 2016 Dr. Bell was presented the Glenn L Martin Medal that honors individuals who have made a contribution to the mission and ideals of the A. James Clark School of Engineering.

Serving the Public Good in Social Justice Careers - Are you interested in using your knowledge and expertise to solve big complex issues threatening humanity? Hear how PhDs are out there tackling topics of national and international importance such as poverty, food and water security, education and equity.

Heather Creek

Heather Creek is the survey research manager at the Pew Charitable Trusts in Washington, D.C. She consults across a broad portfolio of Pew’s policy projects on environment, health, finance, and governance. She designs and manages surveys and behavioral research to support Pew’s goals in the U.S. and around the world. Previously, Heather was a research officer on Pew’s Election Initiatives team where she studied election administration, public opinion, and voting behavior to support Pew’s goals of improving the use of data and technology in elections and strengthening democratic participation. Heather earned her PhD in government and politics in 2013.

Kelly Quinn

Kelly Quinn has spent her professional career working on civic and scholarly engagement at cultural institutions and universities. Before joining UMB, she was the Terra Foundation Project Manager for Online Scholarly and Educational Initiatives at the Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art. She also was a college teacher: as assistant professor of American studies at Miami University and Sojourner Truth Visiting Faculty Lecturer at Taubman College of Architecture + Urban Planning and Department of Afroamerican Studies and African studies at University of Michigan. At Michigan, she won two teaching awards and the Dean’s Prize for Excellence in Service. Quinn earned her PhD in American
Lauren Doamekpor

Dr. Doamekpor is a public health scholar trained in maternal and child health and quantitative research methods. She is currently a senior associate at Guidehouse LLC, a management consulting firm in Washington DC working with NIH clients. She was previously the Deputy Director of Scientific Research at the NIMHD-funded Health Policy Research Consortium (HPRC) where she led activities related to the conceptualization, development, and management of research initiatives designed to assess, understand, and improve health disparities in the Mid-Atlantic region. Dr. Doamekpor also served as a Senior Fellow and Public Health Analyst at the National Center for Health Research, and a Health Policy Researcher at the Lewin Group. She received her MPH from the George Washington University and PhD in Maternal and Child Health from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Regina Davis Moss

Regina Davis Moss is the associate executive director of public health policy and practice for the American Public Health Association. She oversees a broad portfolio of programs addressing the social determinants of health and has over 15 years of experience managing health promotion initiatives addressing women's health, health equity, and public health capacity building. Dr. Davis Moss earned a Ph.D. in Maternal and Child Health from the University of Maryland, College Park; M.P.H. from George Washington University; B.S. from Howard University, and public health certificate in performance improvement from the University of Minnesota.

Administrative Jobs in Higher Education - This panel will include various University Administrators, who will discuss their career paths from gaining the PhD to entering into their current positions.

Beth Brittan-Powell

Dr. Brittan-Powell completed her PhD work in the Laboratory of Comparative Psychoacoustics at UMD. She has over 20 years lab experience and served as the lab manager for the last 8 years of her tenure. From 2008-2013, her work with the Neuroscience and Cognitive Science Program allowed her to expand my knowledge of the grants development process. She joined the Division of Research in November of 2012 and is responsible for the management of Joint Research Collaborations and promoting research collaborations between College Park and Baltimore; UMD and International Strategic Partners; and the Brain and Behavior Initiative.

Darragh McNally

Darragh is currently the Assistant Vice Provost of the Center for Innovation in Learning and Student Success (CILSS), and previously served as the Director of Evaluation and Research Design at CILSS. Prior to coming to UMUC, he worked as a lecturer and for a UMD living learning program, and for the...
Federal Voting Assistance Program. His interests include program evaluation and research design, analytics and data science in higher ed, academic integrity, survey design, and all issues surrounding comparative politics and political corruption. Dr McNally holds a PhD in political science from the University of Maryland, College Park and his research appears in Online Learning and Politics and Policy.

Dave Eubanks

Dave Eubanks joined Scholars in summer 2010. As associate director, he coordinates assessment efforts and consults on pedagogy and curriculum development. He served as assistant director of the University's Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) between 2006 and 2010, where he developed and collaborated on efforts to enhance undergraduate teaching and learning across campus. Eubanks holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Rhodes College and a master's and doctorate in English Language and Literature from the University of Maryland. He has designed and taught courses in American and British literature, composition, folklore, teaching and learning, and undergraduate research.

Iadviga Zhelezinskaia

Dr. Zhelezinskaia earned her B.S from Murmansk State Technical University in Russia. In 2018 she graduated with a Ph.D. degree in Geology from the University of Maryland where she conducted research on stable isotope geochemistry to understand ancient surface environments. By the end of her Graduate Program, Dr. Zhelezinskaia realized that under current conditions she does not want to pursue a scientific career. After graduation Dr. Zhelezinskaia started working as a Geosciences Laboratory Coordinator in Montgomery College. She is responsible for the setup and maintenance of all equipment for the geology, meteorology, and astronomy classes and extracurricular activities.

Session 2: 11:45 AM-1:00 PM

Professional Pathways in Non-Profit Agencies - A conversation with PhDs who are locally based in the Washington DC area and employed in interesting positions in government agencies and other non-profits.

Dennis Doster

Dr. Dennis Doster serves as the director of the M-NCPPC Black History Program for Prince George’s County, Maryland. In this position, he oversees three historic African American sites: Abraham Hall, Dorsey Chapel, and the Ridgeley Rosenwald School. Dr. Doster also undertakes and supervises research on local black history and produces exhibitions and programming for various audiences. He also serves as adjunct faculty in History and African American Studies at the University of Maryland at College Park and the University of Maryland, University College. He currently serves on the managing board of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area.

Phuong Hoang
Dr. Phuong Hoang is a research faculty member at National Intelligence University (NIU) in Washington, D.C. Her research interests include information and communication technology (ICT), territorial and maritime disputes, and economics and trade in the Asia-Pacific. Dr. Hoang previously worked as an academic program manager with the Center for International Engagement and a research assistant with NIU’s Africa Research Initiative. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, College Park, where she also taught cultural and textual analysis prior to entering government service. An avid linguist, she is fluent in Vietnamese and French, proficient in Spanish, conversant in Italian, and is studying Mandarin in her spare time.

Robin Bloodworth

Dr. Robin Bloodworth is a Data Analyst in Evaluation & Analysis at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), which funds research focused on ensuring patients and caregivers have the information that they need to make important healthcare decisions. Dr. Bloodworth has also conducted research in academia, the federal government, and the private sector. She received a BA and an MPH from the University of Memphis, and a PhD in Health Services from the University of Maryland, where her doctoral research examined how delivery of and access to preventive care affects disparities in healthcare utilization among vulnerable populations.

Tiffany Jones

Tiffany Jones is the director of the higher education policy team at The Education Trust, where she promotes legislation to improve access, affordability, and success for low-income students and students of color. Central to this work is supporting equity- and student-centered accountability and affordability policies at the state and federal levels. Dr. Jones has written academic and policy publications on how higher education policy and practices impact college success for low-income students and students of color. Tiffany holds a Ph.D. in Urban Education Policy from the University of Southern California, a master’s degree in Higher Education Administration from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a bachelor’s degree in Family Studies and English from Central Michigan University.

William Kenlon

Dr. William Kenlon, based in Washington D.C., is a composer specializing in music for chamber, choral, and jazz ensembles. Kenlon’s music has garnered praise for its “lyrical personality that is original and strong” (Boston Musical Intelligencer), and for its sophisticated tonal explorations: “solid without being dense, clear without being sparse, and ever-changing without being random” (ibid). Following a stint as a Visiting Professor of Music at St. Mary’s College of Maryland, he is currently a freelance composer and singer, a theory instructor at the University of Maryland and Catholic University, and a co-founder of the District New Music Coalition.

Use Your PhD to Protect the World - From climate change to issues surrounding conflict and international security, this panel will discuss career paths and organizations that address these critical issues.

Crystal Upperman
Crystal Upperman is a Research Associate for the Global Commission on Adaptation that seeks to accelerate adaptation action and increase political support for building climate resilience. Prior to joining WRI, Crystal was the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Lead at AECOM for the Southeast US, Latin America, and the Caribbean where she spearheaded $10M in business opportunities. She was also a consultant at the World Bank conducting research on sustainable agricultural development in China, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Crystal also spent four years with the Maryland Department of Health leading the U.S. CDC’s Building Resilience Against Climate Effects grant that identified climate impacts and associated health effects in Maryland communities. Crystal earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Marine, Estuarine, and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland as an U.S. EPA STAR Fellow and an NSF LSAMP Fellow.

Kiersten Johnson

Dr. Kiersten Johnson is a social demographer with 20 years of experience responding to the research needs of international development organizations. She has led innovative developments in the integration of NASA’s Earth observation data into population-based survey datasets, exploring associations among environment, health and nutrition outcomes. Dr. Johnson has technical expertise in all phases of survey and evaluation research and has published on topics including biodiversity and ecosystem services, maternal and child health and nutrition, socioeconomic inequalities, HIV/AIDS and malaria. She currently serves as a Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor for USAID’s Bureau for Food Security and USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service.

Maíra Ometto Bezerra

Maíra Bezerra is an Ecohydrologist and Associate Scientist of the Moore Center for Science at Conservation International. Her current work explores integrated watershed management via the application of the Freshwater Health Index in basins worldwide. She has also been working with freshwater ecosystem accounting. Maíra is originally from Brazil and her doctoral degree is on Environmental Sciences from the University of Maryland, USA. She is trained on surface water modeling and terrain analysis. Her doctoral work included understanding how gully formation in sugarcane fields influences the hydrology and sediment and nutrient dynamics of headwater streams in Brazil.

Sue Lin

Sue Lin is the Director of the Quality Division in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). She oversees HRSA’s Health Center Program initiatives in patient centered medical home transformation, quality improvement, and comprehensive primary care integration with behavioral health, substance use disorder, oral health, HIV care, and public health. Sue also directs HRSA’s Advance in Precision Medicine Initiative to support NIH’s All of Us Research Program goal of enrolling one million individuals including those historically underrepresented in biomedical research. Sue received her PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Maryland, College Park.
Research Outside of Academia - Expand your knowledge about possible career paths and organizations that utilize those quantitative and qualitative research data collection and analysis skills you have developed during your doctoral education.

George Stantchev

George Stantchev is a Computational Scientist and Applied Mathematician with the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. He received his Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computing from the University of Maryland at College Park in 2003. Dr. Stantchev has been actively involved in interdisciplinary research on a variety of topics ranging from electromagnetic modelling and simulation to high performance computing, nonlinear system identification, machine learning and topological data analysis in the RF signal domain, with recent focus on decentralized computational algorithms for collaborative autonomy in distributed multi-agent systems.

Keisha Wilson McDowell

Keisha McDowell is a Principal Investigator with DuPont Nutrition and Health’s Engineering Technology Organization. Her expertise is in moisture characterization and control. Dr. McDowell has 20 years of experience in industrial engineering research toward product and process commercialization, applications development, technical service, and manufacturing consulting. She has demonstrated experience in laboratory, pilot, and commercial-scale operations involving food ingredients, enzymes, bioactive cultures, and natural/synthetic polymers. She received a BS and a PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Maryland and the University of Florida, respectively. She is a senior member of AIChE and Adjunct Faculty at Morgan State University.

Sarah Blankenship

Dr. Sarah Blankenship is an American Association for the Advancement of Science/Society for Research in Child Development (AAAS/SRCD) Executive Branch Policy Fellow hosted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (HHS/ACF/OPRE). At OPRE, she manages a portfolio of research projects to evaluate ACF programs for low-income children and families. She formerly served as a Mirzayan Fellow at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Dr. Blankenship holds a B.S. in Psychology and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science from the University of Maryland.

Sidra Montgomery

Sidra Montgomery is a Researcher at Insight Policy Research where she conducts research on federal policies and programs, including food and nutrition assistance programs, healthcare initiatives, and military personnel issues. She specializes in designing and executing studies that utilize qualitative methods, including in-depth interviews, focus groups, and content analysis. Sidra earned her PhD in Sociology from the University of Maryland in 2017; her dissertation examined the significance of the “wounded warrior” construct in the lives of Iraq and Afghanistan wounded veterans.
**Stefanie Brodie**

Dr. Stefanie Brodie is a proud Terrapin. She completed her BS in Civil Engineering and worked in consulting for several years before her graduate studies. She obtained a Master’s of City and Regional Planning and a MS and PhD in Civil Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, with research focused on transportation planning for equity. She is a Marie Curie Fellow whose postdoctoral research at the University of Nottingham focused on sustainability performance measures. Dr. Brodie believes that research should help public agencies make informed decisions and is currently a Research Program Specialist at the District Department of Transportation.

**Faculty Jobs Beyond the Research University - Do you enjoy teaching at the university-level more than doing research? Learn more about career paths in teaching focused colleges and private high schools.**

**Dina Kurzweil**

Dr. Kurzweil is the Director of the USUHS Education & Technology Innovation (ETI) Support Office and an Assistant Professor of Medicine in Health Professions Education (HPE). As ETI Director, she provides strategic direction for the ETI, instructional and educational technology support for faculty, supervision of ETI personnel, and management of the ETI office. Prior to that, she worked at the National Defense University providing direction and vision of the instructional team supporting the Center for Educational Technology. She has been a member of the HPE faculty since 2015 teaching on such topics as curriculum and instructional methods. She has served on numerous committees and task forces examining a wide range of topics including educational technologies, interprofessional education, professional development for K12 and higher education faculty, learning management systems, program assessment and evaluation, instructional design, and teaching/faculty support paradigms. Dr. Kurzweil has presented at international, national, and regional conferences and has published in wide variety of academic and professional journals.

**Dylan Roby**

Dr. Roby is an Associate Professor, Associate Chair and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Health Services Administration in the University of Maryland's School of Public Health. Prior to joining the faculty at UMD, he was a professional track faculty member at UCLA and played role leading their MPH programs and a research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. His work focuses on impact of health reform, efforts to change health care delivery and payment to achieve health equity and improvements in health outcomes. He was trained in public policy at the George Washington University (PhD), and completed a bachelors degree in Geography at UCLA.

**Ethan Eagle**

Now a UMD lecturer, Dr Ethan Eagle has technical expertise in laser-based diagnostic methods applied to turbulence flame interactions and from 2013 to 2016 worked at the prestigious Combustion Research Facility of Sandia National Labs, in Livermore, CA. Since 2011 he has also been a creative consultant to businesses and currently teaches online executive educational programs on how to lead
innovation with Ann Arbor based consultancy, the Innovatium. He holds a PhD is from the University of Michigan in Aerospace Engineering.

Pallavi Guha

Pallavi Guha teaches journalism and new media at Towson University. Dr. Guha researches on anti-rape and sexual harassment activism on mass media and social media platforms and the role of gender in electoral campaign and media. Dr. Guha is a former journalist, researcher, and media educator with over a decade of professional experience. She has a Ph.D. in journalism from the University of Maryland, and her academic background lies in the intersection of political science, international relations, communication, journalism, and Women’s Studies. An alumna of University of Maryland, Rutgers University, Presidency College, and Jadavpur University, Dr. Guha has worked internationally for leading media organizations including BBC News and television, London and The Times of India in UK, India, and the U.S.