



GRADUATE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

September 9, 2021

CODRE

Jason A. Deakings, MSPH

WHO ARE YOU?

Jason A. Deakings, MSPH



- ❖ **PhD Candidate, SPHIS**
- ❖ **HSC ODI Health and Social Justice Scholar**
- ❖ **President Emeritus, Multicultural Association of Graduate Students (MAGS)**
- ❖ **President Emeritus, SPHIS SGA Council**
- ❖ **President, Black Graduate/Professional Student Association**

GRADUATE STUDENT EXPERIENCES

- COVID-19 School Year (Fa 20 – Spr 21)
- Back to School
- Fellowships/Assistantships
 - Research
 - Teaching

COVID-19 SCHOOL YEAR (20-21)

- **Course Work**

- Little to no engagement
- Instructor issue with technology management
- “I feel cheated”, “I should have just stayed home”, “We NEED discussion time”

- **Dissertation**

- Resources unavailable (i.e., Advisor/Chair, Campus services)
- Research nearly impossible – setbacks
- Writing impossible
- “I’m just at a stand still”, “I haven’t heard from chair in weeks”, “How am I going to get participants/lab time during COVID?” “My timeline is completely off now”

BACK TO SCHOOL (FA 21)

- Business as usual – no major changes
 - “ I tried to remain busy during shut down”
 - “I’m trying to graduate, no time to be stagnant”
- Coursework is better with in-class interaction
 - “Compared to 20-21, I prefer in class sessions, smaller class size allows us to naturally social distance”
 - “Many of my colleagues I had never met in person”
 - “I do wish that GTA/GRAs were considered when choosing a completely in-person school year”

FELLOWSHIPS/ASSISTANTSHIPS

- Overwhelmed, Exploitative, Oppressive
- GTAs utilized when faculty instructors are uncomfortable with meeting in person.
- GRAs forced to be in lab/research procedures
- Issues with tuition reimbursements posted in a timely manner (impacting personal responsibilities)

HOW CAN CODRE HELP?

- Advocacy
- Collective Power
- Resources (i.e., individual and organization-affinity groups)
- Visibility

SOMETHING NEW!!!!



**Black Graduate & Professional
Student Association**

BLACK GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Purpose:

Provide an environment that promotes and defends cultural awareness and responsiveness, supports the total complete Black student experience on campus, and supports the development for Black Graduate and Professional students at the University of Louisville.



**Black Graduate & Professional
Student Association**

BLACK GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION



**Black Graduate & Professional
Student Association**

Aims:

- Meet the academic, professional, and social needs of Black Graduate and Professional students at UofL.
- Positively enhancing the experience of Black Graduate and Professional students at UofL.
- Utilize multidisciplinary tools to empower its community and assist with opening the doors to higher education to more individuals from culturally diverse backgrounds.
- Provide a place of refuge where Black students are encouraged to share ideas, concepts, and frustrations.
- Promote social opportunities for members and associates to relax and network.

MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM...



Black Graduate & Professional
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Black Graduate & Professional
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MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM...



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QUESTIONS???