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# Symposium on the Future of PhD Education at Johns Hopkins

Friday, January 24, 2014

The Symposium on the Future of the PhD at Johns Hopkins will bring together faculty and students from across Johns Hopkins to discuss the recent report of the Committee on the Future of the PhD. Participants will include the PhD Board, the Graduate Deans, and students and faculty from each of our PhD programs.

The Symposium will help the PhD Board prioritize the committee's recommendations for implementation. It will share best practices across programs and identify data that can be used to measure progress.

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## PROGRAM

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|---------|---|---------|---|--|--|
| 9:00am  | - | 9:30am  | · | <i>Registration and Continental Breakfast</i>  | Hodson Hall Lobby<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Floor |
| 9:30am  | - | 9:45am  | · | <i>Opening Remarks</i><br>Provost Robert C. Lieberman, Johns Hopkins University  | Hodson Hall, Room 110                      |
| 9:45am  | - | 10:30am | · | <i>Keynote: Report of the Committee on the Future of the PhD</i><br>Renée Martin-Bennett<br>Professor of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University |  |
| 10:30am | - | 10:45am | · | <i>Break</i>   |  |
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|---------|---|---------|---|--|-----------------------|
| 10:45am | - | 12:00pm | · | <b><i>Breakout Session 1</i></b>   |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Improving the Student Experience</i>  | Hodson Hall, Room 313 |
|         |   |         |   | The PhD is perhaps the most personal of degrees, based on close interactions between student and advisor. There are many aspects to the student experience, ranging from quality of advising and mentoring to building a diverse and inclusive community to making sure that students are making steady progress towards their degrees. Different programs have different approaches to these issues. What works? And what does not? |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Chair: T. Brown, BSPH and W. Egginton, KSAS</i>   |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Speakers: C. Broholm, KSAS, S. Castro Klaren, KSAS and V. Hilser, KSAS</i>  |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Fostering Educational Innovation</i>  | Hodson Hall, Room 305 |
|         |   |         |   | The Gateway Science Initiative has focused new energy and attention on innovative teaching in our introductory undergraduate courses. What lessons have we learned that might apply to Ph.D. education? What are best practices for moving students into research as quickly as possible? Are we teaching the right skills in the right way? Will the dissertation continue to be an important avenue for scholarly communication?   |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Chair: M. Carlson, BSPH and E.R. Scheinerman, WSE</i>   |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Speakers: S. Gange, BSPH and L. Graham-Brady, WSE</i>   |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Reducing Barriers Between Programs</i>  | Hodson Hall, Room 303 |
|         |   |         |   | At Johns Hopkins, we have a large number of relatively small PhD programs. While this offers students an intensely personal experience, it also risks limiting their horizons. How can we assure that our students have access to all that Johns Hopkins offers, across programs, departments and schools? What barriers need to be removed to increase opportunity and build larger intellectual communities for our students?      |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Chair: G. Ball, KSAS and B. Rapp, KSAS</i>  |                       |
|         |   |         |   | <i>Speakers: G. Ball, KSAS, B. Hobbs, WSE and M. Hardiman, SOE</i>   |                       |
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*Increasing PhD Career Opportunities*

Hodson Hall, Room 301

The Ph.D. has been and always will be a degree that trains students for research careers. Today, however, many of our students wish to apply their skills outside academia, in settings ranging from government to industrial startups. How can we better prepare students for such alternative career paths? How can we support them while they broaden their horizons? How can we reconcile these activities with a desire to reduce the time to degree?

*Chair: M. Keck, KSAS, D. Raben, SOM and D. Vodel, SOM*

*Speaker: D. Vodel, SOM*

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12:00pm - 1:00pm ▪ *Lunch*

Hodson Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lobbies

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1:00pm - 2:15pm ▪ **Breakout Session 2**

*Improving the Student Experience*

Hodson Hall, Room 313

*Chair: T. Brown, BSPH and W. Egginton, KSAS*

*Speakers: C. Broholm, KSAS, S. Castro Klaren, KSAS and V. Hilser, KSAS*

*Fostering Educational Innovation*

Hodson Hall, Room 305

*Chair: M. Carlson, BSPH and E.R. Scheinerman, WSE*

*Speakers: S. Gange, BSPH and L. Graham-Brady, WSE*

*Reducing Barriers Between Programs*

Hodson Hall, Room 303

*Chair: G. Ball, KSAS and B. Rapp, KSAS*

*Speakers: B. Hobbs, WSE and M. Hardiman, SOE*

*Increasing PhD Career Opportunities*

Hodson Hall, Room 301

*Chairs: M. Keck, KSAS, D. Raben, SOM and D. Vodel, SOM*

*Speaker: D. Vodel, SOM*

2:15pm - 2:30pm ▪ *Break*

2:30pm - 3:30pm ▪ *Reports from the Breakout Sessions*

Hodson Hall, Room 110

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