



Community Service Office

Gephardt Institute for Public Service

Tips for Collaborating with Graduate & Professional Students

This information is by no means comprehensive, but it is a great place to start!
For more information or to develop a plan for connecting with undergraduate students,
we encourage you to schedule a meeting with our

Graduate & Professional Student Outreach Coordinator
communityservice@wustl.edu
935-5599

Resources Offered by the Community Service Office

- **Community Service Connection**

Email newsletter announcing campus and community events and opportunities related to community service, with a Graduate and Professional student edition announcing opportunities specifically relevant to this population.

Subscribe or submit announcements at communityservice.wustl.edu/csconnection.

- **Graduate & Professional Student Programming Board**

This student-run organization coordinates community service opportunities open to all graduate and professional students, and supports Community Service Office outreach efforts.

- **Graduate & Professional Student Outreach Steering Committee**

The Community Service Office coordinates and hosts this committee, comprising representatives from all academic schools and graduate-level governing bodies. Please communicate with our office for more information.

- **St. Louis Non-Profit Agency Database**

Online searchable database of over 300 St. Louis non-profit agencies. Find opportunities for individuals or groups at communityservice.wustl.edu/stlagencies.

- **Community Service Groups Page**

Overview of student groups (both graduate/professional & undergraduate) dedicated to community service at communityservice.wustl.edu/groups.

Key Contacts & Websites

- **Community Service Office** (communityservice.wustl.edu)

The Community Service Office has a number of resources, including a Graduate and Professional Student Outreach Coordinator, that focus on connecting graduate and professional students with community service opportunities.

- **Graduate & Professional Student Council (GPC)** (gpc.wustl.edu / gpc@wustl.edu)

Each school has representatives and their contacts can be found on the website. GPC also has a community service committee and publicizes weekly events via email.

- **Sourcebook** (<http://gpc.wustl.edu/documents/sourcebook.pdf>)

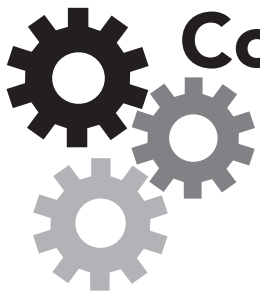
GPC produces a guide overviewing student groups and governing bodies. This can be found on their website under GPC Information/Links and Downloads and it can be useful in connecting with graduate and professional student groups.

www.communityservice.wustl.edu

communityservice@wustl.edu

Danforth University Center, room 250 • 935-5599

**Visit us for comprehensive information about St. Louis non-profit agencies,
community service groups, project planning resources, and more!**



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Gephardt Institute for Public Service

Graduate & Professional Student Culture

Terms & Acronyms

- **GPC:** Graduate Professional Council (SU equivalent)
- **ProGrads:** Professional & Graduate Student Coordinating Committee
- **GSS:** Graduate Student Senate (ArtSci student government)
- **SCC:** Student Coordinating Council (Social Work)
- **OT/PT:** Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy
- **Practicum:** Intensive internship integrated into coursework
- **1L, 2L, 3L:** Law School student class level (e.g. first year=1L)
- **MSG:** Medical Student Government
- **SBA:** Student Bar Association (Law)
- **AGES:** Association of Graduate Engineering Students
- **GAC:** Graduate Architecture Council
- **Brown School:** School of Social Work
- **GBSA:** Graduate Business Student Association

Meetings & Event Planning

- Be specific about where meetings and events are held - many graduate students are not as familiar with other parts of campus outside their specific school. Referencing the campus map can be very helpful.
- Hold meetings in academic buildings or in main campus buildings such as the Danforth University Center.
- Meetings in late afternoon or early evening are usually the best for graduate and professional students. Students may be less likely to return to campus for late night meetings.
- Register events on GPC's online calendar (gpc.wustl.edu/calendar). There are also several school specific calendars that will allow posting of events.

Academics & Interests

Some graduate programs are condensed into a shorter period of time and therefore require students to focus heavily on their academic work, practica, internships, research, theses, etc. This leaves some students with very little time for co-curricular activities. Other programs are lengthy and involve a heavy focus on research, dissertations, and teaching. Therefore, student group continuity at the graduate level can be effected. Students often seek co-curricular opportunities that are related directly to their career goals, and others prefer to do something completely unrelated to follow other passions.

Demographics

Graduate and professional students represent a wide demographic. Some students come to graduate school directly after their undergraduate experience, while others take a few years off, and still others may be returning to school to start a second career. Additionally, many graduate and professional students may be married, have partners, or have children at home, which may influence the types of activities they are interested in and their availability for meetings and events.

Medical School & Danforth Campus

The campus culture at WU is decentralized and therefore the Medical School and each graduate school program operate independently. Because the Medical School is geographically removed from the Danforth Campus, it is useful to know that it is composed of several programs including the MD program, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, along with several other smaller programs. When communicating with the Medical School, keep in mind the distance and the multitude of communities that exist there. However, collaboration between entities at the Medical School and Danforth Campus are encouraged, favorable, and rewarding.

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