

Doctor of Philosophy Board

AY 21/22 Report



JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY



Doctor of Philosophy Board Members for AY 21/22

Faculty Members:

Katherine Clegg Smith • Professor, Department of Health, Behavior and Society, BSPH
Judy Bass • Professor, Department of Mental Health, BSPH
Brendan Daley • Associate Professor, Department of Economics, KSAS
Jonah Erlebacher • Professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, WSE
Peter Espenshade • Professor and Associate Dean, SOM
Devesh Kapur • Professor of South Asian Studies and Director of Asia Programs, SAIS
Sabra Klein • Professor, Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, BSPH
Robert Leheny • Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy, KSAS
Theodore Lewis • Professor, Near Eastern Studies, KSAS
Amy Shelton • Professor and Associate Dean for Research, SOE
Jennifer Wenzel • Associate Professor, SON

PhD Student Members:

Danielle Bautista • Chemistry, KSAS
Alanna Bergman • Nursing, SON
Gian Molina-Castro • Neuroscience, SOM

Staffed by:

Nancy Kass • Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education
Julie Nadel • Director of Graduate Education, Office of the Provost

Programs reviewed by the Doctor of Philosophy Board in AY 21/22

Cell, Molecular, Dev. Biology and Biophysics (KSAS)
Chemistry (KSAS)
Epidemiology (BSPH)
Functional Anatomy and Evolution (SOM)
The Jenkins Program in Biophysics (KSAS)
Health Sciences Informatics (SOM)
Mechanical Engineering (WSE)
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology (BSPH)
Political Science (KSAS)
Population Family Reproductive Health (BSPH)



Outcomes of AY 21/22 program review

- Nine (9) programs received recommendations with a request for a one-year follow-up report
- One (1) program received recommendations with a request for a six-month follow-up report

Issues most frequently raised in DPB PhD program reviews in AY 21/22

- Need for systematic mechanisms for student feedback to improve the PhD program
- Need to develop strategies for recruiting and retaining students and faculty from diverse backgrounds
- Lengthy time to degree completion, relative to peers, both within and outside of JHU
- Student funding inequities within programs
- Program climate issues, including student satisfaction scores on PhD exit survey, need for additional mental health support for students, and need for student cohort development and community building
- Need for additional programming on non-academic careers
- Outdated or unclear PhD student handbooks and need to include key universitywide policies

New programs: request for new PhD program approval

- Jewish Languages and Literature (KSAS) – approval with request for additional information

Conferral

- The DPB voted to approve conferral for
 - 149 students in August 2021
 - 133 students in December 2021
 - 229 students in May 2022

Requests for exceptions to University wide requirements for the PhD

- Time to degree exceptions: One student in KSAS (approved)
- Graduate Board Oral Exam exceptions: Two students in KSAS, transferring to JHU (approved)

Other DPB business in AY 21/22

- 11 follow up reports reviewed from DPB reviews in AY 20/21
- Divisions and Provost voted to approve revisions to the University Requirements for PhD discussed and approved by the DPB in AY20/21.
- DPB outlined requirements for Doctoral Board Oral exam transfers
- Introduction of new ombudsperson, Annalisa Peterson