

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT UPDATE

In fall 2021, the Division of Student Life (DSL) administered a needs assessment and conducted listening sessions to better identify UI graduate and professional student needs. The DSL continues to implement various changes across programs and services. This document summarizes fall 2022 progress. We will continue to carefully consider and respond to graduate and professional student needs in ongoing projects.

Fall 2022 Progress

University Counseling Service offered a therapy group and a drop-in friendly support space & skill-building workshop for graduate and professional students

Increased basic needs support, included winter clothing distribution at the College of Pharmacy and food security strategies at the College of Dentistry

Hosted a variety of welcoming programs and events for graduate and professional students

Student Disability Services updated the accommodations application form to a web-based process and clarified that law, dentistry and medicine students should contact their colleges directly for accommodations

Collaborated with several graduate programs and professional colleges to offer mental health and well-being programs, workshops, support groups and information fairs. Some commonly requested program topics were stress management, self-care, nutrition and campus resources.

Increased collaboration with Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) and Graduate Student Senate (GSS). Examples include mental health presentations to both groups, adding a GPSG table at Fresh Check Day, GSS co-hosting a coffee hour, and regular meetings to explore the idea of mental health peer education.

Updated workflows to make it easier for graduate and professional students to schedule wellness appointments outside of regular business hours

Altered content on many websites to be more inclusive of graduate, professional and post-doctoral students

Increased sharing of graduate and professional student content on social media channels and the After Class website

In Progress for Spring 2023

- Communication plan for target student life messages to graduate and professional students
- National College Health Assessment survey of all graduate and professional students
- Cooking workshops specifically for graduate and professional students
- Alumni and graduate/professional student networking event, panel and celebration dinner at the Asian Pacific American Cultural Center