

Georgia Institute of Technology Project Title:
Georgia Tech 2019 Graduate Student Experience Survey

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Purpose: The purpose of this research is to benchmark the current experience for collegiality, collaboration, mentorship, inclusion and mutual respect among graduate students, faculty and staff at Georgia Tech. The results will be used to inform Institute leadership and graduate programs about the prevailing attitudes, practices, and dispositions of the Georgia Tech community surrounding these issues. This study is a reiteration of the 2016 Graduate Experience Survey with a focus on producing comparable longitudinal data on the graduate student experience at Georgia Tech.

Exclusion/Inclusion Criteria: Participants must be current Georgia Tech graduate students.

Procedures: If you decide to be in this study, your part will involve completing a 15-20 minute survey online. You will access the survey through a URL that is included in your invitation to participate.

Risks or Discomforts: Participants may feel slightly uncomfortable responding to questions related to personal experiences with others. You may decline to answer any questions you choose, for any reason that you choose.

Benefits: By volunteering to participate in this survey, you will be contributing to the larger efforts of Georgia Tech to improve the support and experience of graduate students.

Compensation to You: There is no compensation for participation and participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You will be qualified to win a \$50 gift card prize for completing the survey.

Confidentiality: Survey responses will be stored without personal identifiers, and will be analyzed by researchers in aggregate. When you fill out the survey on-line, the data will be encoded and data transmission will occur over a secure computer system. The data transmission is encrypted and firewall securities are in place. Data security is achieved through use of SSL encryption during storage and transmission to protect it from external access or viewing. The survey has an identification number so we can check your name off the list when your response is received; this list is not associated with your actual survey responses in any database. In general the server software will log the IP address of the machine you use to access this page, e.g., 192.168.1.1, but this will not be stored with your responses. No other identifying information will be stored unless you explicitly enter it.

Please be assured that your participation or non-participation will not affect your status at Georgia Tech. The data collected about you will be kept private to the extent allowed by law. All data will be kept in secure files and only study staff will be allowed to look at them.

Costs to You: There are no costs to you for participating, other than your time.

Participant Rights: • Your participation in this study is voluntary. You do not have to be in this study if you don't want to be. Participation in no way affects your standing with Georgia Tech. • You have the right to decline to answer any question or questions that you choose. • You have the right to change

your mind and leave the study at any time without giving any reason and without penalty. • Any new information that may make you change your mind about being in this study will be given to you. • You can print a copy of this consent form to keep. • You do not waive any of your legal rights by participating in this research study.

Questions about the Study: If you have any questions about the study, you may contact the Office of Graduate Studies at 404.894.1610 or email us at gradinfo@mail.gatech.edu .

If you complete the survey, it means that you have read -- or have had read to you -- the information contained in this letter and would like to be a volunteer in this research study.