

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS DEPARTMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES GRADUATE PROGRAM**

**Please note:** Almost all of your questions can be answered by consulting the graduate school website: <http://www.grad.uga.edu/> or the relevant document provided by the Department in its web site. Please familiarize yourself with both of these sources of information.

### **Q. How do I apply?**

A. All applications are made through the Graduate School at the University of Georgia. Application instructions can be found in the Graduate School web site: <http://www.uga.edu/gradschool/admissions/requirements.html>

### **Q. Where do I get forms?**

A. Downloadable forms are available at:  
<http://www.uga.edu/gradschool/admissions/requirements.html#forms>

Supplemental application for the College wide Master in Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences can be found at [http://www.vet.uga.edu/research/students/MS\\_VBS.php](http://www.vet.uga.edu/research/students/MS_VBS.php)

### **Q. Where do I find out information about Graduate School requirements?**

A. The most current information can be found in the Graduate Bulletin, which is posted on the graduate school website <http://www.uga.edu/gradschool/bulletin/>

### **Q. What are my chances of getting into the program? What are the GRE requirements?**

A. Chances vary on factors outside your control such as the quality of the applicants' pool and the amount of Departmental funding for graduate assistantships. A solid GRE of 650-800 in each verbal and quantitative portions of the test would position your application as very competitive. With a combined score of less than 1100, you should consider taking the test again.

### **Q. How important is the GPA?**

A. It is important but it also depends on the degree obtained and the Institution attended. Our faculty members must be confident that you will be able to maintain the minimum GPA of 3.0 required in graduate level courses.

### **Q. What should I write in the Statement of Purpose/Personal Statement?**

A. This is your chance to "talk" to the Admissions Committee and say why you want to attend our graduate program and what you can bring to the program. This is your also your opportunity to highlight your qualifications to receive assistantships.

### **Q. Who is considered core/joint/adjunct faculty in the Department?**

A. Please consult the list of core, affiliated, joint, and adjunct faculty provided by the Department (see Departmental web site). This list changes occasionally, so when in doubt, you can contact the Graduate Coordinator.

**Q. Who is the Graduate Coordinator? Who is the Graduate Assistant? What is the difference?**

A. Dr. David Peterson (dspete@uga.edu) is the GraduateCoordinator. The Graduate Assistant can be reached by email (gradasst@uga.edu) or by telephone (706-542-3473). The assistant is the office person in charge of routine maintenance of the graduate program. She handles incoming applications, keeps records on current and past students, approves forms and makes copies prior to sending them to the Graduate School, and makes sure we all stay on track.

Dr. Peterson is the faculty member that manages the graduate program. As such, he chairs the graduate committee for the department. This committee evaluates applications and makes recommendations about the program, works on programmatic issues (makes decisions on applications, seeks assistantship funding for new students, evaluates and implements curriculum changes, etc.). If you need a form signed or a question answered, see the graduate assistant. If you are seeking a change to the program as a whole or need assistance trouble shooting some unusual circumstance, see the graduate coordinator.

**Q. Who does laboratory rotations and how are they scheduled?**

A. Students on Departmental assistantships go through lab rotations. This is all explained in the document on the previous page by selecting the “Rotation Procedure” link.

**Q. What financial support is available?**

A. Most students accepted into the program are supported through fellowships or assistantships. Students funded on fellowships or assistantships are also granted a tuition waiver. Information can be found on the previous page by selecting the “Application Process” link.

**Q. What is the cost of living in Athens?**

A. Living expenses are relatively low in Athens. Graduate student housing can be found (<http://www.uga.edu/housing/gradfam/index.html>) in the \$450-\$650/month range including some utilities. Off-campus apartments and rental homes (<http://www1.livingchoices.com/market.aspx?mid=0500>) are also available.

**Q. What else does Athens have to offer?**

A. Athens is a thriving city of approximately 110,000 people. The downtown atmosphere is heavily influenced by the University of Georgia as evidenced by the multitude of musical, cultural, and culinary offerings. An abridged description of Athens, GA in Wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Athens,\\_Georgia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Athens,_Georgia)) offers a brief overview of the city’s history, musical heritage, culture, and other useful information.