Welcome to the Faculty of Graduate Studies, your “Home Away From Home”.

On behalf of myself and Associate Deans Drs. Michael Czubryt, Stephen Kirkland and Kelley Main, I would like to welcome you to the Faculty of Graduate Studies, commonly known as FGS.

The year 2020 has tested each and every one of us! It is not that we have faced new challenges, but rather, these challenges have been amplified. A coronavirus that reached pandemic levels; heightened dissemination of violent acts driven by systemic racism and intolerance, and instances of extreme environmental insults fed by our continued abuse of our planet. It is a time that will reveal what we are truly made of. Do we choose to acknowledge and act upon the need for change in all walks of life, disciplines and interests, or do we bury our heads in the sand? As a member of an institution that takes pride in academic freedoms and achievements, we have the privilege of pursuing higher education and discovery wherever our passions take us. In so doing, we strive for integrity and excellence. It is my hope that your graduate journey is motivated by the need to acquire knowledge and skills that can be used for change and that, one by one, we make this world a better and more welcoming place; one that is driven by the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Treat FGS as your “home away from home” because FGS is responsible for overseeing all of the University’s 143 graduate programs. Consequently, we get to know all of the more than 3,700 graduate students in our Faculty. We take pride in ensuring the excellence of our graduate programs, and we seek to promote an educational environment that breeds success. For example, in 2019-2020, FGS provided over 13M dollars in direct financial support and this, coupled with additional awards external to the University, allowed our outstanding graduate students to achieve local, national and international recognition. Furthermore, this last year witnessed the rebirth of the Graduate Student Experience Committee despite the lock down of our University Buildings. We encourage you to connect with FGS directly, or through your University of Manitoba Graduate Student’s Association (UMGSA) or Health Sciences Graduate Students’ Association (HSGSA), to ensure that your voice is heard.

For those that are new to graduate studies, FGS is located at 500 University Centre. Whether in-person or virtually, our reception team will be happy to answer your initial enquiries and guide you to appropriate resources. Our admissions team processes all online applications submitted. Graduate program requirements are detailed in your Graduate Studies Supplemental Regulations, and these will guide you as you advance through your program. Our team of graduate student program assistants track your progress, and assist you in any changes that might affect the timely completion of your degree requirements. To promote success, keep a look out for FGS Upcoming “Awards and Other Opportunities” emailed to you weekly. Our team of awards assistants are available to answer your questions, and to process your applications, and awards. Our communications team will assist you with your online experience and disseminate timely notices, reminders, and resources. Finally, your academic and professional development is important to us; we encourage you to take advantage of GradSteps and #UMGradGoals.

We hope you have a great graduate student experience, and wish you all the best in achieving your goals!

Dr. Louise R. Simard
Dean (Acting), Faculty of Graduate Studies