



**BRIDGING THE GAP:
DEFERRALS, LEAVES, AND SKIPPED COHORTS**

CGS 61st Annual Meeting
December 1-4, 2021
New Orleans, LA

University of Colorado Boulder



E. Scott Adler

Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs



Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

University of Colorado Boulder

- 35,897 total students at UCB
- 2,937 doctoral students
- 67 doctoral programs

School/College	# of Doctoral Programs
Arts & Humanities (A&S)	11
Natural Sciences (A&S)	15
Social Sciences (A&S)	8
Business	1
Media, Comms. and Info.	6
Education	6
Engineering	14
Music	3
Multi-disciplinary	3



Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

University of Colorado Boulder

Graduate School & the COVID Landscape

- Graduate program budgets come from colleges, not from the Graduate School
 - Size of graduate programs determined by college budget/research grants/teaching needs
- No campus-wide COVID directives on PhD admissions
- No campus-wide COVID budget to extend funding for PhD students
- International PhD students: flat in Fall 2020, significant increase in Fall 2021
- Some colleges/divisions faced budget cuts pre-dating COVID



University of Colorado Boulder

School/College	Admissions	Extended Funding
Arts & Humanities (A&S)*	2 programs <u>suspended</u> for 1&2 year(s) Some others reduced admissions	Some extended funding on ad hoc basis
Natural Sciences (A&S)	3 programs reduced admissions (20 -50%) Remainder no change	Same 3 programs provided small # of extensions
Social Sciences (A&S)*	4 program suspended admissions, Remainder reduced classes ~25%	Some extended funding on ad hoc basis
Business	[No change]	[No change]
Media, Comms. and Info.*	Reduced admissions ~40%	[No change]
Education	Reduced admissions ~25%	[No change]
Engineering	[No change]	All students who needed were extended funding
Multi-Disciplinary	--	--
Music	[No change]	[No change]

*Budget cuts unrelated to COVID



University of Colorado Boulder

Outcomes

- Size of incoming classes:
 - PhD -- Fall 2020 increase, Fall 2021 small dip
 - Masters -- very sizable increase both 2020 & 2021
- STEM programs less likely to reduce/suspend admissions, research funding continued to grow
- Programs scrambled to extend funding on an ad hoc basis...not likely these are done
- Graduate School expanded dissertation and summer fellowships (targeted COVID-impacted)
- Admission criteria changed (i.e. GRE), increased diversity and for some this change is sticking
- Some acceleration of discussion about restructuring graduate student funding



University of Colorado Boulder

Thank You



Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**