UMich Philosophy Admissions Fair 2020 **Graduate student Q&A panel**

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:17 PM

Hi all! Welcome to the Q&A!

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:29 PM

Just FYI, everyone is automatically muted when you enter the room, but you should be able to un-mute yourselves.

From Margot Witte to Everyone: 01:33 PM

Are the questions in a Google Doc? Would someone mind dropping a link?

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:33 PM

Also some of us have been adding answers to the google doc

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:34 PM

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YObbV18B2NZxKj2TZ1qMzA8lHO1N5KeufQyxZlzePfs/edit?ts=5e70de3e

From Malte to Everyone: 01:34 PM

https://deref-

gmx.net/mail/client/Eg1Ec2vs2YE/dereferrer/?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.gle%2Fbu8NADPDsNkr8WQr9

on it:)

From Angela Sun to Everyone: 01:34 PM

what's up

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:34 PM

Your excitement excites me!!:):)

From Florence Bacus to Everyone: 01:34 PM

Long time no see!

From Rebecca Harrison to Everyone: 01:34 PM

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YObbV18B2NZxKj2TZ1qMzA8lHO1N5KeufQyxZlzePfs/edit?usp=sharing

From Angela Sun to **Everyone**: 01:34 PM i know!!!!! so happy you're here!!!!

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:34 PM

Hi Florence!!!

From Florence Bacus to Everyone: 01:38 PM

happy to be here! hey sumeet!

Rebecca idk if this is any fixable on your end but your voice sounds kinda muffled

From mercy to Everyone: 01:38 PM

Seconding florence! (Also, hi florence!)

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:39 PM

Hi everyone - when you're not talking, please be sure to mute yourself. You can find the mute button on the bottom left corner.

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:39 PM

Rebecca, if you have a pair of headphones with a mic, that can help

From Florence Bacus to Everyone: 01:40 PM You might also be inadvertently covering your mic Better

From Sarah Sculco to Everyone: 01:40 PM

Yes please!!

From Sonia Pavel to Everyone: 01:41 PM At what point did you decide to do the JD PhD?

From Sarah Sculco to Everyone: 01:41 PM

Also, where did you do the JD?

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:41 PM

She's at Michigan for both JD and PhD

From Sarah Sculco to Everyone: 01:41 PM

Thank you!!

From Sonia Pavel to Everyone: 01:41 PM

Thank you!

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:41 PM

Caroline is doing the JD at UM

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:42 PM

We do have current grad students who are doing Yale PhD and UM PhD, but they're not on this call because they're on

leave from UM for Yale

*Yale JD

From Sonia Pavel to Everyone: 01:42 PM

Thanks, that is helpful!

From Laura to Everyone: 01:43 PM

Adam if you tried to talk, we didn't hear you!

From adamwaggoner to **Everyone**: 01:43 PM Yeah, my mic doesn't seem to be working at all!

From Sarah Sculco to Everyone: 01:43 PM

Can I ask for the name of the person doing Yale JD and Mich Phd? :-)

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:44 PM

Jonathan Sarnoff and Lingxi Chenyang

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:44 PM

If people are interested in a masters, that's also feasible - Josh did a math MA, Calum is doing one too (I think), and Boris

(recent grad who does formal epistemology) did a stats MA.

From Emma Hardy to Everyone: 01:44 PM

Guus Duindam is also getting a Michigan JD if people want another person to talk to about that!

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:44 PM

(An MA that's not part of a special program, I mean)

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:44 PM

Adam, you might be able to test your mic and change the settings; I had mine set up wrong the first time I joined the

chat, and it wasn't broadcasting anything until I fixed it.

From Angela Sun to Everyone: 01:47 PM

Ann Arbor is very bike friendly if you live farther away :)

From Laura to Everyone: 01:47 PM

& with a UM ID card we get all AA & university busses free!

From Gillian to Everyone: 01:48 PM

It's possible to get a 1 bedroom apartment very, very close to campus (6 min walk) for less than \$1000 if you are

dedicated to finding a place.

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:48 PM

It might help to have folks in UM housing comment (I think Brendan and Glenn?)

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:48 PM

Echo

From Mica Rapstine to Everyone: 01:48 PM

What resources do you recommend for apartment hunting?

From Margot Witte to Everyone: 01:48 PM

Do folks need a car?

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:48 PM

No!

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:48 PM

https://offcampushousing.umich.edu/

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:48 PM

Craiglist in Ann Arbor was useful for me!

From Josh to Everyone: 01:48 PM

Zillow! PadMapper.

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:48 PM

And grad students are often willing to scope places out for people / take photos:)

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:49 PM

No car necessary at all. (If you decide to live in a nearby city, Ypsilanti, or in Detroit, a car will be helpful.)

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:49 PM

But yea you should look into places asap after you commit!

From Lianghua (Glenn) Zhou to Everyone: 01:49 PM I pay about \$930 for a one-bedroom in Northwood

From Angela Sun to Everyone: 01:49 PM

There's also an Ann Arbor housing facebook group that people post open apartments in!!

if you want to get added to that group, let me know:)

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:49 PM

(and Northwood is university-owned housing that is a bus ride away from the philosophy department because it is on the engineering/fine arts campus

From Elise Woodard to **Everyone**: 01:50 PM We had instacart! And amazon prime now!

For groceries :)

have*

From julian rome to Everyone: 01:50 PM

is it reasonably easy to find a place that allows pets?

From Angela Sun to Everyone: 01:50 PM

There are great carshare options in Ann Arbor too — Zipcar and Maven. They're very cheap per hour compared to other ...

cities.

like \$6 an hour

From Laura to Everyone: 01:51 PM

re: pets - definitely!

i sadly dont have a pet but my apartment is pet friendly, and a lot of people in the department have them

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:51 PM

There are fancy grocery stores in Kerrytown (where lots of people live), and you can do grocery delivery too:)

From Emma Hardy to Everyone: 01:52 PM

There are also smaller markets downtown! I never go to the larger ones because it's easier to walk

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:52 PM Yes yes, feel free to follow up on anything with me:)

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:53 PM

BTW - some of us were thinking that we could continue the convo on Slack in the next few days/weeks since we

probably won't get to all the questions:)

From Margot Witte to Everyone: 01:53 PM

Angela we love you

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:53 PM

<3

From Sarah Sculco to Everyone: 01:53 PM

That's a good idea :-)

From Laura to Everyone: 01:53 PM

we <3 GEO

(GEO = grad student union) heck ya Gillian i see u

From Gillian to Everyone: 01:53 PM

heheh

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:54 PM

Gillian do you have GEO gear? I just ran and grabbed some

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:54 PM

Here's the link for Slack - https://join.slack.com/t/umichphil/shared invite/zt-clcksvjl-UIPdZs6U7Bs7pUV162DnAQ

From Angela Sun to **Everyone**: 01:55 PM omg @MARGOT love ya toooooooo

i'm seriously just so excited i can't get sentences out!!! thank u eduardo for being so much more articulate than me

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:56 PM Re slack - just created a 'prospective g' channel :)

From Laura to Everyone: 01:56 PM

There's also various opportunities for fellowships that you can apply to or be nominated for, some from the department, some from the grad school (Rackham)

From Josh to Everyone: 01:56 PM

Rackham has dissertation fellowships (one term or more competitive three term fellowship) you can use in your last year to avoid teaching while on job market.

From julian rome to Everyone: 01:56 PM

do you get opportunities to teach independently during those teaching years?

From Josh to Everyone: 01:57 PM

Yep, in the summers!

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:57 PM

There are also external fellowships - NSF, P.D. Soros, etc. - that can be used to teach slightly less

From Elise Woodard to **Everyone**: 01:57 PM (Rare opportunities during the semester too)

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:57 PM

Every once in a while there is an open spot to teach independently during the semester too, but usually those folks have already taught on their own during the summer

From Josh to Everyone: 01:57 PM

some people have chosen to teach in the summer even three times I think. Demand is variable.

From Laura to Everyone: 01:57 PM

also re summers - you don't normally *have* to teach in summer. there's only one summer where your summer funding

hinges on teaching

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:58 PM

It's called the 'Center for Research on Learning and Teaching' (CRLT) - you can check out their website for more deets!

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:58 PM

http://crlt.umich.edu/

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 01:58 PM

carson, we have ESP!

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 01:58 PM

high-five Sumeet

From Laura to Everyone: 01:58 PM

Plus - you can get SO much support for teaching based on other grad students!! I've learned half of what i know from

the other grad students here, even informally

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 01:59 PM

Carson and Sumeet - name a better chat duo...I'll wait

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:59 PM

^^ same!!!

From Laura to Everyone: 01:59 PM

A lot of people here are really wonderful & passionate teachers and are always happy to talk to you about teaching -

related stuff

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 01:59 PM

In my experience, teaching is harder your first semester, but then it gets way easier and takes less time.

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 01:59 PM

I love this chat so much

From Caroline Perry to **Everyone**: 02:00 PM

Yes, TONS of variation from professor to professor

From Laura to **Everyone**: 02:00 PM

(thought - would someone be able to download/take notes/etc on this chat for info that's being put in here?)

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 02:00 PM

I'm gonna save a copy of the chat log

From Laura to Everyone: 02:00 PM

amazing thank you carson!!!

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 02:00 PM

bows

From Laura to **Everyone**: 02:00 PM *standing ovatoin from the crowd*

From Malte to Everyone: 02:00 PM

This is all really informative, thank you all!

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:01 PM

I put lots of thoughts in the google doc on this:) LR;DR: ask students of people you may want to work with. I'm happy to

answer q's about Jim, Sarah M, and Brian:)

(Who are all amazing - short version)

From mercy to Everyone: 02:01 PM

I'm happy to answer questions about: Liz, Ishani, and Sarah Buss!!

From Rebecca Harrison to Everyone: 02:01 PM

I'm happy to answer any questions folks have about Ishani as an advisor - she's AMAZING.

From Josh to Everyone: 02:02 PM

I'm happy to talk about Ruetsche, Belot, Baker (and to a lesser extent Tappenden)

From Florence Bacus to Everyone: 02:04 PM

hey Josh!!!

From Josh to Everyone: 02:06 PM

hey Florence!

It's great to be back in your presence!

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 02:06 PM

Should we talk about GSWGs?

From Paul Forrester to Everyone: 02:06 PM

^ I was curious about GSWGs

From Laura to Everyone: 02:06 PM

yes! we should

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:07 PM (Also sorry I'm Elise, I'm a 4th year, she/her)

Rn it is virtual - for documentation of the greatness of last week's first virtual GSWG, see:

https://www.instagram.com/uofmphilosophy/?hl=en:)

From Malte to Everyone: 02:09 PM

How many graduates typically participate in a GSWG event?

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:10 PM

Ranges from 15-20

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:10 PM

(But only one presenter)

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:10 PM

In very busy weeks (i.e. final exams or midterms), probs around 10-16

From Laura to **Everyone**: 02:10 PM & we take food requests #important

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:10 PM

One thing that's been great is that lots of first years present too!! (And there are ~8 presentations/semester)

From julian rome to Everyone: 02:10 PM

How many of the groups (working, reading, etc) would you say that there's time to be involved in during a given

semester?

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:10 PM We also sometimes go out to a bar after the GSWG

From mercy to Everyone: 02:10 PM

Yes! Bar! Fun!

From Josh to Everyone: 02:10 PM

@Julian: probably like 2-4

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:11 PM

You can be involved in multiple reading groups and go to GSWG in a single semester! Just depends on your other life commitments (e.g. family, pets, etc.)

General piece of advice to build on what Elise said a bit ago - one really good skill to build in graduate school (anywhere) is the ability to be proactive in taking control of your education. That's really important to develop mentoring relationships, getting feedback, etc. And it can be very hard to do this, due to lots of different kinds of obstacles - feeling like you don't want to impose on people, social nervousness, etc. So that's just a general thing to keep on your radar!

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 02:11 PM

Also, GSWGs don't NEED to be fully fleshed out 50-minute talks. Mine on Thursday is going to be more exploratory—a shorter talk and less chatting.

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:13 PM

Building on Sumeet's point building on my point:) — one thing I have really appreciated about Michigan is that I've been able to organize any reading group/working group/workshop etc that I've wanted - and have gotten money from the department to do so:) (so if you wanted to say, start a new annual event, or a joint grad workshop with people at other schools, you can often get funding for that!)

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 02:13 PM

(oops, in case anyone was confused by my last comment—I meant a shorter talk and MORE discussion, not less)

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:14 PM

We love skincare here

From Carson Maynard to **Everyone**: 02:14 PM I wondered what Mask Night was! hahaha

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 02:15 PM

Yes, and professors are more accessible here (on average)

From Margot Witte to Everyone: 02:15 PM

Another question: Can someone talk a little about placement (how much support people get, morale, record, etc.)?

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:17 PM

One link that might be useful: https://lsa.umich.edu/philosophy/graduates/prospective-students/placement.html

(for placement info)

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 02:17 PM

I'm going to be updating that webpage later today FYI. Just got more current info!

From Josh to Everyone: 02:17 PM

I have a good placement sheet from last year I can send out.

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:17 PM

We also have a placement director, who is Tappenden. I think there's gonna be a session on that too? (And ty Carson for

updating it!)

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 02:18 PM

Yes, hoping to have Jamie's talk uploaded either tonight or tomorrow morning.

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:20 PM

Some updates since the website was updated in 2018: Cat is now TT at Minnesota, Sara A TT at Arizona, Boris is at NUS I think but has a bunch of TT offers (I'm not sure how much is public knowledge but some top 10 schools, for instance), EDUARDO TT at Cincinnati Woo Woo, Mara is directing Cog Sci program at UM now, and more updates/some stuff in limbo (e.g. I know some recent grads who had a bunch of fly outs but don't know where they're at now bc I don't keep

regularly in touch w them)

From tschmalt to **Everyone**: 02:21 PM Boris has a TT at INSEAD (Paris-Singapore)

From Elise Woodard to **Everyone**: 02:21 PM Ah right! Thank you for correcting that!

From mercy to **Everyone**: 02:21 PM Daniel Drucker has at least one TT offer!!

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:21 PM

YAY!

From tschmalt to Everyone: 02:21 PM

I didn't know that: great news!

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:21 PM

So happy to hear that! :D

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:23 PM

also you can join me on my quest to try to eat at every restaurant in ann arbor

which will be a very long quest...

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:23 PM

There is also a new regular bus service that goes direct from Ann Arbor to Detroit. So, it is becoming much easier to get to Detroit without a car

From tschmalt to Everyone: 02:23 PM

Some other placements: Chip at CalTech, Dmitri at Pittsburgh, Dan Singer at Penn

From Angela Sun to Everyone: 02:23 PM

if you watched the tour video ft. elise and calum, you may have heard that ann arbor has more restaurants per capita than nyc;)

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:23 PM

Dmitri is also planning on moving to that fancy Melbourne research place at ACU

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:24 PM

Detroit is also SUPER underrated. Lots of great museums and concert venues. Annual jazz festival on the river across

from Canada in September

(Dianoia Institute at Australian Catholic University)

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:24 PM

Yes that's it - thanks!

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:25 PM

Also, Ann Arbor and Detroit are great for live sports. We have pro teams in 4 major sports and a minor league soccer

team in Detroit, as well as top college sports across the board in AA

From Laura to Everyone: 02:25 PM

i'm pretty sure they say you could go to a new restaurant every day of the year & still not hit them all

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:25 PM

(also lower level minor league soccer in AA in the summer)

From tschmalt to Everyone: 02:25 PM

And the Big House!

From Emma Hardy to Everyone: 02:25 PM

If anyone wants to hear good things about AA, I'm happy to chat! I love it here (I'm from LA)

From Laura to **Everyone**: 02:26 PM also summer here is AMAZING

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:26 PM

Btw if you are nervous about moving to the Midwest without having ever been here - many of us have been there! (Well, we got to visit, but that's dif). I'm from NY and went to UG in Portland, OR and had no conception of what life

would be like in AA (and thought I'd pre-theoretically hate it), but I love it here :)

From Caroline Perry to **Everyone**: 02:26 PM

Totally agree with Gillian—grad student happiness matters! It's a big chunk of your life!

From Laura to Everyone: 02:27 PM

it's light out late, lots of bars & restaurants are open late and have outside seating, Everyone is outdoors and happy

& all the undergrads clear out so there's no lines and lots of parking

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:27 PM

You gotta love being on the western end of the time zone :)

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:27 PM

Yes, thanks, Tad. The Michigan football stadium is the 2nd biggest in the world by capacity (the 1st is in North Korea for the Arirang Games). Even if you don't like football, it is quite the spectacle to attend a game. It also sometimes hosts international soccer friendlies. We had FC Barcelona and Napoli last summer

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:27 PM

(But seriously make daylight savings time permanent)

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 02:27 PM

YES, Rebecca is totally right—don't choose a department based on one or two people

From Laura to Everyone: 02:28 PM

Sherice, Johann

That's a big thing to note — if there's anyone you're interested to talk to, and you haven't been in contact with yet or they're not here - you should email them! Don't worry about nothing people, most of us are VERY happy to talk about UM/grad school generally. Please reach out to us!! We are also sad that admissions weekend was cancelled

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:29 PM

There is also a regular shuttle bus to the airport from Ann Arbor, which is \$22 round trip

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:29 PM

Rebecca, can I say a quick thing, too?

From Eduardo Martinez to Everyone: 02:29 PM

Walking distance from the department

From Rebecca Harrison to Everyone: 02:29 PM

Yes!

From Laura to Everyone: 02:31 PM

COME TO MMP!!

From Gillian to Everyone: 02:31 PM

Agreed with Laura -- we are so disappointed that we don't get to meet you in person and talk up Michigan!! You are missing the combined off-the-charts excitement levels of Angela and Laura and I!!

From Mica Rapstine to Everyone: 02:31 PM

Thank you all!

From Laura to Everyone: 02:31 PM

Chandra is giving a talk 3-4!!

From Josh to Everyone: 02:31 PM

hahaha

From Laura to Everyone: 02:31 PM

I will add more !!!!!! to back up gilliam's point about our off the charts excitment!!!!!

From Gillian to Everyone: 02:31 PM

11111111111111

From pietro cibinel to Everyone: 02:31 PM

Thank you very much, everyone! It was all very helpful:)

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:31 PM

GO GRUE

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:31 PM

THANKS ALL

From mercy to Everyone: 02:31 PM

Go grue!!!!

From Sonia Pavel to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thank you so much for taking the time to do this!

From Angela Sun to Everyone: 02:32 PM

go grue!!!

From Laura to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Emma! advertise it!

From Malte to Everyone: 02:32 PM

This was really great. Thanks everyone for making this happen!

From Florence Bacus to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thanks so much for having this!

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thanks for coming!

From julian rome to Everyone: 02:32 PM

thank you all so much!

From Sarah Sculco to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thank you so much!!!

From brendanmooney to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thank you for moderating, Rebecca!

From Laura to **Everyone**: 02:32 PM You all rock! thanks for showing up!

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Echo, echo!

From Margot Witte to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thanks Everyone! And so nice to see fellow prospies:)

From Paul de Font-Reaulx to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thank you very much all!

From mercy to Everyone: 02:32 PM

Thanks Rebecca!!!!

From beckert to Everyone: 02:32 PM

this was great—thanks you all!

From mercy to Everyone: 02:32 PM

You're the best!!!

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 02:33 PM

I'm very open to helping facilitate a prospectives-only chat

From Laura to Everyone: 02:34 PM

we are a very pun-friendly department, so Everyone is aware

From Sumeet Patwardhan to Everyone: 02:34 PM

Gotta run, comrades! Bye to all!

From Caroline Perry to Everyone: 02:34 PM

Bye!

From Josh to Everyone: 02:34 PM

ta ta for now!

From Sarah Sculco to Everyone: 02:34 PM Can you put the slack link in again?? :-)

From Gillian to Everyone: 02:34 PM

Yeah, I was disappointed that the virtual tour didn't feature my puns in the common room

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:34 PM

Yes yes :)

From Laura to Everyone: 02:34 PM

Gillian is pun queen

From Elise Woodard to Everyone: 02:35 PM

https://join.slack.com/t/umichphil/shared_invite/zt-clcksvjl-UIPdZs6U7Bs7pUV162DnAQ

WOW SO SORRY GILLIAN!!:(

From Carson Maynard to Everyone: 02:35 PM

I can make that happen, Gillian. :)

From Laura to Everyone: 02:35 PM

WE LOVE MMP

From Emma Hardy to Everyone: 02:35 PM

and baking queen

From Gillian to Everyone: 02:35 PM

CARSON you're the best