



EMORY | LANEY GRADUATE SCHOOL



2026 Dean's Address

Kimberly Jacob Arriola, PhD, MPH

Dean, James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies

Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs

Charles Howard Candler Professor of Behavioral, Social, and Health Education Sciences

Rollins School of Public Health

March 4, 2026

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement



Land Acknowledgment

Emory University acknowledges the Muscogee (Creek) people who lived, worked, produced knowledge on, and nurtured the land where Emory's Oxford and Atlanta campuses are now located. In 1821, fifteen years before Emory's founding, the Muscogee were forced to relinquish this land. We recognize the sustained oppression, land dispossession, and involuntary removals of the Muscogee and Cherokee peoples from Georgia and the Southeast. Emory seeks to honor the Muscogee Nation and other Indigenous caretakers of this land by humbly seeking knowledge of their histories and committing to respectful stewardship of the land.

University Leadership & LGS Executive Council



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Sara McPhee

Art History



Chris Yun

Cancer Biology

Emory Mission

To create, preserve, teach, and apply knowledge in the service of humanity

LGS Vision

Laney is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in advancing academic excellence through innovative scholarship, research, teaching, and programming that prepares a diverse and inclusive graduate student body for success as leaders and in service to the global good.

James T. Laney President Emeritus, Emory University

“The point of having a multicultural university right here in Atlanta, Georgia, is that—just like the Coca-Cola company—we're going to reach out around the world. We're going to be at the forefront of forming a new multicultural society, and we're not going to be ashamed of it. ”



Strong Year for Applications

PHD Applications*	
Natural Sciences	+35%
Social Sciences	+15%
Humanities	-2%

*F'26 applications as compared to the previous 5-year average

Select Master's Applications**	
Computer Science	+399%
Economics	+168%

**F'26 applications started as compared to this time last year

2026 Dean's Address

Challenges to Graduate Education





“Not everything that
is faced can be
changed, but nothing
can be changed until
it is faced.”

- James Baldwin

Collective Bargaining Agreement



2026 Dean's Address



The Ridge Graduate & Professional Student Housing



Laney Strategic Framework



1.
Promote Interdisciplinary
academic opportunities

What our students learn



2.
Enable Inclusive
Environments

How our students learn



3.
Facilitate Impactful
Scholarship

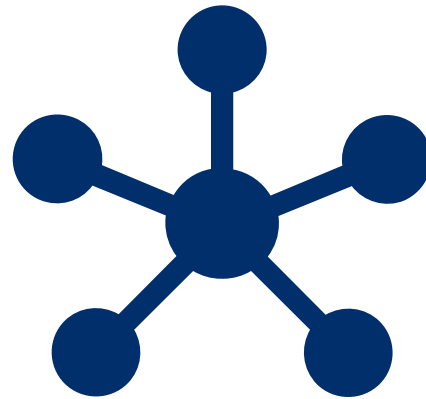
*What our students do with
what they learn*



1. Promote Interdisciplinary Opportunities: Master's Students



Recruit Exceptional Students



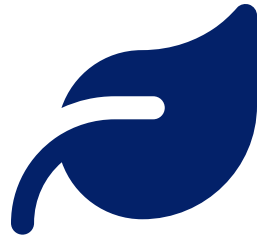
Build Operational Infrastructure



Advance Career Pathways



2. Enable Inclusive Environments



Purpose & Wellbeing

Goal: Provide tools and resources to identify and understand how to enhance growth



Pathways to Success

Goal: Develop skills and strategies for professional success



Community & Belonging

Goal: Establish collaborative communities to develop meaningful connections



3. Facilitate Impactful Scholarship

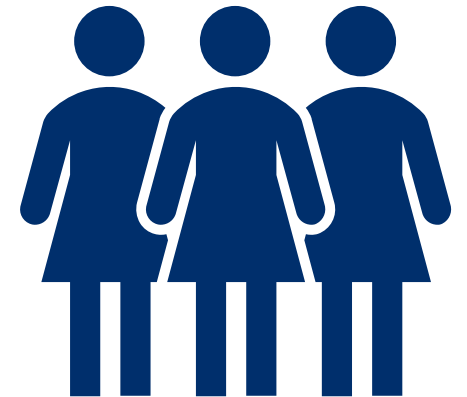


Experiential Learning



Grant Writing Course

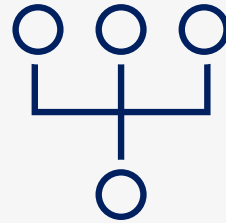
Teaching Triad
Faculty Fellowship



Strategic Framework: How We Do It



Incorporate Students Voices



Achieve Operational Excellence



Create a Culture of Collaboration



Engage and Develop Staff



Foster Alumni and Donor
Engagement

2025-2026 LGSC Executive Board



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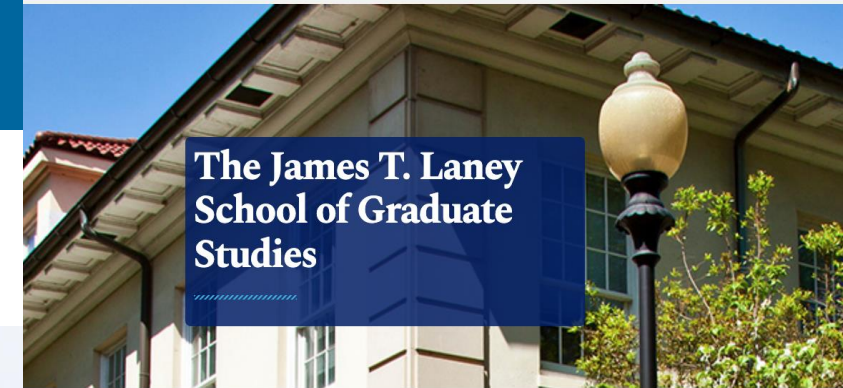
TICKET LIAISON
NUTRITION AND HEALTH SCIENCES
MD/PHD STUDENT



Hannah Barge

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS OFFICER
CANCER BIOLOGY
PHD STUDENT

2. Achieve Operational Excellence



DEGREE PROGRAMS

APPLY NOW

REQUEST INFORMATION

WHY CHOOSE THE JAMES T. LANEY SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES?



Laney Graduate School at Emory University offers a top-tier graduate education in a dynamic environment.

With 40+ doctoral and master's programs, Laney is home to a diverse community of graduate students who are driving innovation across the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

Students benefit from world-class faculty mentorship, cutting-edge research opportunities, and comprehensive career preparation for success in academia, industry, and public service. Located in Atlanta, a global hub for education and research, Laney Graduate School empowers students to thrive, lead, and turn knowledge into meaningful action.

MICROS

3. Create a Culture of Collaboration



Joseph Crespino
Interim Dean
Emory College of Arts
& Sciences



M. Daniele Fallin
Dean
Rollins School of
Public Health



Gareth James
Dean
Goizueta Business School



Lisa Muirhead
Interim Dean
Nell Hodgson Woodruff
School of Nursing



Jonathan Strom
Dean
Candler School of Theology



Sandra Wong
Dean
School of Medicine

4. Staff Engagement and Development



5. Foster Alumni Engagement





Alicia B.W. Clifton 12G



Claudia Brown 14G



Priya Mehta-Gupta Das 15PH 24PhD



Nuri Jeong 23PhD



Matthew Kim 10C 10G



Ogonna J. Nwajiobi 22PhD



Maria C. White 19PhD

2025 40 Under *Forty* Laney Honorees



Carla Roncoli, PhD
Former Director of MDP



Ulf Nilsson, PhD
Associate Dean, Academic Operations &
Director, Admissions and Recruitment



Celebrating Student Success



Anya Fredsell
Graduate Division of Religion
2025-2026 Fulbright Award



John Anthony Fuller
Nursing
2025 Kharen Fulton Award

Looking
Forward
to the Future



Jericho Brown, PhD

Pulitzer Prize in Poetry

MacArthur Fellow

Charles Howard Candler Professor
of English and Creative Writing

Director of Creative Writing





Nasturtium



Delphinium



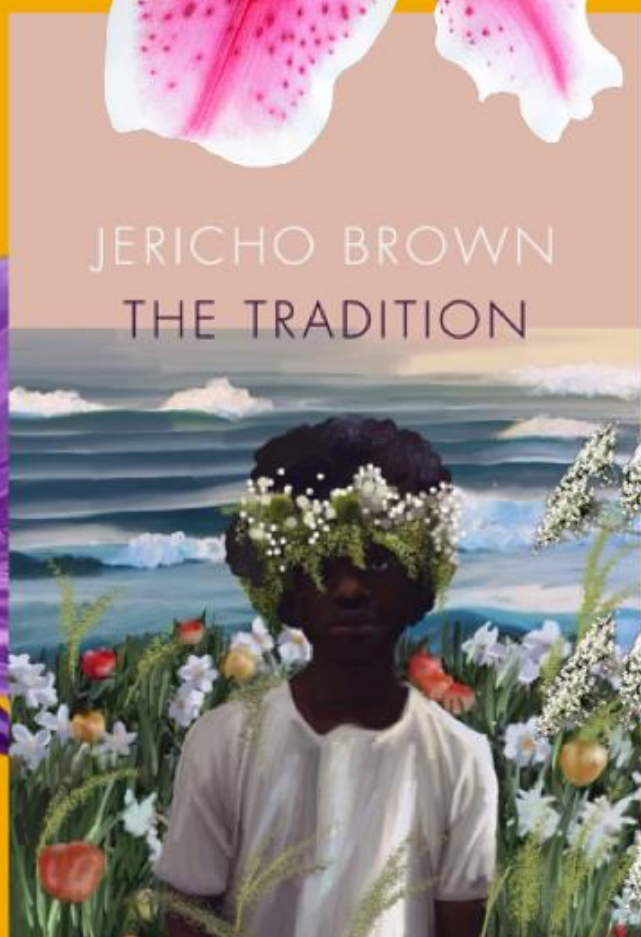
Star Gazier



Foxglove



Aster



JERICHO BROWN
THE TRADITION



Cosmos



Baby's Breath



THANK YOU

Questions?

lgsdean@emory.edu



Celebrating

Women's History Month

Reflecting on Our Past, Shaping Our Future

