

Frequently Asked Questions about the Grover Research Group

We use this document as a guiding principle:

<https://catalog.gatech.edu/academics/graduate/expectations/>

How often do you meet? The Grover Group has one weekly group meeting, with general announcements and discussion followed by a presentation by one group member. Occasionally we invite guest speakers. For individual meetings, I prefer to meet biweekly for one hour with each graduate student and postdoc. However, this can be adapted based on the student needs and preferences. For example, sometimes we have a weekly subgroup instead.

What is your advising style? I want to make sure that you have a clear idea of your next steps. Ideally you will identify the steps, but I will help you with that, especially in the beginning. The sooner that you become the leader of the project and I am your “advisor,” the more productive you will be. My goal is to help you become independent.

How does co-advising work? Many of the students and postdocs in the group are co-advised. You have one project, and we all advise you on that project. We all meet together in the biweekly meeting.

Are you an experimental or a computational group? Most graduate students spend most of their time on experimental work. However, data analysis and model-building are important for most of our projects. Projects begin with a design goal, such as optimization or control. We generate experimental data to build our models, to use model-based design, and to test out our designs.

Do your graduate students do internships? I think that internships are a good idea, and many of my PhD students have had an internship. It needs to be worked out in terms of other commitments, but generally we can work this out.

Where do your students and postdocs go after they graduate? Many students and postdocs work at large chemical and pharmaceutical companies. Multiple students work at national labs and in academic positions in the US and abroad.

https://grover.chbe.gatech.edu/P_FormerMembers.html

What sort of hours do you expect students to work? I do not monitor the amount of time that you are working. It is most important to be efficient with your time, and also it takes a significant amount of time to be productive. My primary concern is to help you be productive.

How many papers do you expect students to publish? I do not have a fixed number of papers required to graduate. A good minimum goal would be to have three first-

author papers plus additional papers based on collaboration. I want you to have a strong publication record to set you up for your next steps after graduation.

Do your students attend professional conferences? Presenting your research at national and international conferences is an important part of your PhD or postdoc experience. I encourage students to submit abstracts to conferences once they have conclusive results in place for their first publication.

Do you have undergraduate researchers in your lab? Yes. Undergraduate students are typically mentored by a graduate student or postdoc, and start by taking research credit (3 credit hours \geq 9 hours of research/week). If you are interested in undergraduate research, please reach out to me by email with your resume and interests.

How do you like to be reached during non-emergencies? Primarily we use email. Students and postdocs have my cell phone number to call or text, but typically this is for urgent issues in exceptional situations.