

# DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAM (DGRP) 2020-2021 SUMMARY REPORT

## RECRUITING AND APPLICATION PROCESS

The DGRP continued the use of the previous year's restructure of the two-stage application process for the fifth cohort of incoming DGRP students in Fall 2021. Despite challenges due to COVID-19 and limitations of the application pool size, the DGRP admitted three new WSU students, two first year WSU students, and two second year WSU students, for a total cohort of seven students. The full DGRP application is now completed online. The DGRP's goal is to increase the diversity and number of applications in the 2022 application pool.

## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Cohorts 1-5*							
Domestic	22	(54%)	Male	28	(68%)	Total	41
International	19	(46%)	Female	13	(32%)		

\*As of 9/21/2021

## AWARDED FUNDING FROM PNNL TO WSU

DGRP Award Totals by Fiscal Year					
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 to Date*	Total
\$154,286	\$280,882	\$589,458	\$543,078	\$176,097	<b>\$1,743,801</b>

\*As of 9/21/2021

## GRADUATION AND PLACEMENT

Nine DGRP students graduated from WSU between Spring 2020 - Spring 2021, five of whom graduated in Spring 2021. The DGRP alumni group currently consists of twelve students. The DGRP has successfully implemented an exit survey (six completed surveys received as of July 2021). Recent graduates have accepted positions following graduation at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (6), National Renewable Energy Laboratory (1), Argonne National Laboratory (1), Commonwealth Edison (1), University of Washington (1, post-doc position), and The Ohio State University (1, post-doc position).

## MARKETING AND EVENTS

The DGRP presented to Associate Dean for Research group in November 2020 and distributed the DGRP brochure to Joint Appointees and faculty and scientists involved with the Joint Institutes ahead of the 2021 application cycle. Four DGRP articles (3 WSU, 1 PNNL) were produced in Fall 2020 - Summer 2021:

- "[WSU-PNNL Distinguished Graduate Research Program provides real-world experience](#)" (November 2020)
- "[PNNL-WSU DGRP provides pathway from classroom to national laboratory](#)" (June 2021)
- "[PNNL-WSU DGRP plays critical role in educating next generation scientists](#)" (July 2021)
- "[Students Spring into Science Careers](#)" (July 2021)
- **2020 Cohort Orientation:** In September 2020, the DGRP held its first annual new cohort orientation.
- **2021 DGRP Student Gathering:** In March 2021, the DGRP held its second annual student gathering.