2022 New Graduate Student Orientation Agenda

Thursday, August 18

8:00 a.m.  Light Breakfast & Check-in  3rd Floor Lobby
8:30 a.m.  Welcome from the Dean  Meinel 307
Thomas L. Koch, Dean of the Wyant College of Optical Sciences

9:00 a.m.  Academic Programs Introductions
Brian Anderson, John Koshel, Jini Kandyil, Ruth Corcoran, Channel Lemon,
Amber Soergel, Hillary Mathis, Mark Rodriguez, Michael Nofziger and Cindy Robertson

9:15 a.m.  New Student Introductions

10:00 a.m.  Curriculum, Degree Requirements & To Do List
Brian Anderson, Associate Dean for Graduate Academic Affairs
Jini Kandyil, Senior Graduate Academic Advisor

11:00 a.m.  Lunch  3rd Floor Lobby

12:30 p.m.  Funding Overview
Mark Rodriguez, Manager, Academic Program Finance & Operations

1:00 p.m.  Student Resources  Meinel 307

  Lab Safety Training
  Hillary Mathis, Manager Instructional Laboratories

  Cubicles & Key Access
  Jini Kandyil, Senior Graduate Academic Advisor

2:00 p.m.  Break  3rd Floor Lobby

2:15 p.m.  Graduate Student Panel Discussion  Meinel 307
Current Students and Representatives from the Student Optics Chapter, Women in Optics, and the Journal Club
Topics to include finding a research group, outreach opportunities, student groups and social activities,
living in the desert, reserving a cubicle and more
2022 New Graduate Student Orientation Agenda

Friday, August 19

8:30 a.m.  Light Breakfast  3rd Floor Lobby

9:00 a.m. -  
4:30 p.m.  Open Lab Visits & Open Faculty Office Hours  Various Location

10:00 a.m.-  
4:00 p.m.  Demo of the Airy Optics improved FOCUS-VR  Meinel 454

FOCUS-VR is a University of Arizona-Airy Optics-developed software with students in mind. FOCUS began development in Fall 2019 and provided proof of concept during the 2019-2020 Interdisciplinary Capstone. It was expanded upon through Senior Design 2020-2021 where our team won $2,500 in prizes and again in the 2021-2022 school year where our team headed by Carter Conway, a previous student, won Best Design Documentation, Most Robust Systems Engineering, and Best Simulation and Modeling.

In Fall 2021, we integrated FOCUS-VR into OPTI 201L by enhancing two labs. Working with Hillary Mathis and Dr. Mike, we intend to add our FOCUS-VR supplemental labs into at least six OPTI 201L labs. Additional labs include polarization labs with polarization components such as retarders and polarizers. We have also designed a lab wizard for professors to add their own lab material and design pre-saved labs.

12:00 p.m.  Lunch with Faculty  3rd Floor Lobby

1:00 p.m.  Open Lab Visits & Open Faculty Office Hours Cont.  Various Location

2:00 p.m.-  
3:30 p.m.  New Student Photos  3rd Floor Lobby

3:00 p.m.  Break

4:30 p.m.  Meet in 3rd Floor Lobby for Walk to Gentle Ben’s

5:00 p.m.-  
7:00 p.m.  New Student Happy Hour at Gentle Ben’s (RSVP required)  865 E University Blvd
Tucson, AZ
85719