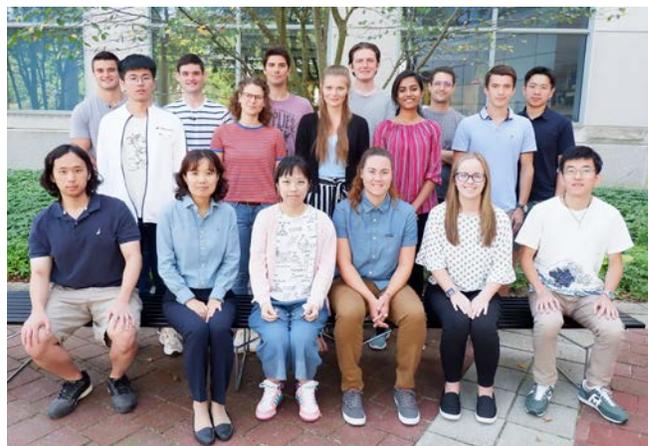




Dear Prospective Student-

PSE is a dynamic and inclusive department with an international reputation for defining the frontiers of polymer science and engineering research. Our primary mission is to educate the future leaders in our field, through impactful research programs and teaching endeavors. This mission is accomplished by focusing on the fundamentals of soft materials chemistry, physics, and engineering, and by engaging in the local, national, and international communities and societies in our field. The success of this mission is enhanced by continuing to promote a community of individuals having diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and cultures, working together in an environment where mutual respect is valued. As such, the PSE community strives to cultivate an inclusive, safe, and welcoming atmosphere of research and education.



PSE entering Class of 2019

The Department hosts an average of 100 doctoral degree candidates, 25 postdoctoral fellows and visiting scientists culminating in about 200 researchers committed to top-level research and education. More than forty companies and federal agencies support our research and educational programs. All PSE PhD candidates are fully-supported research fellows, requiring no mandated teaching duties (although many students volunteer each year to assist their fellow students in the first year curriculum).

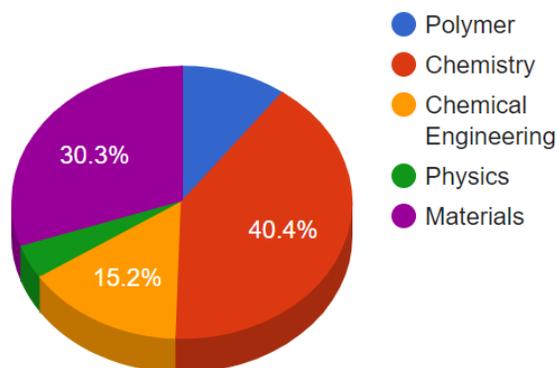
Here you will find some information related to our graduation rates, demographics, and time to degree. Our students come from all over the world and have many different undergraduate degrees, adding to the diversity within the Department. In addition, we are proud of the career opportunities PSE provides to its alumni who are now leaders in industry, academia, and government research and innovation.

Graduation Rate and Time to Degree	
Graduation Rate	88%
Time to Degree	4.9 yrs

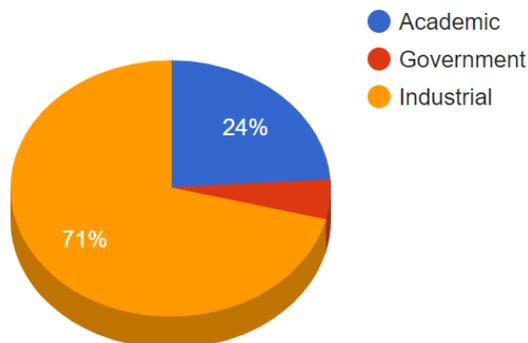
Incoming Class Demographics		
	Female	Male
2016	56%	44%
2017	53%	47%
2018	57%	43%

PSE also houses the Industry/University Cooperative Research Center providing students not only exposure to the inner-workings of industry research/collaboration but also frequent visits of industry representatives (mostly PSE Alums) who regularly return to recruit for high-impact companies. These companies include 3M, Dow Chemical, DuPont Corporation, PPG, Arkema, FormLabs, Axalta Coating Systems, PolyOne, Infineum, Saint Gobain, Exponent, Kraton, Solvay and Intel. This is reflected in the high rate of employment upon degree conferral.

B.S. Degrees of Incoming PSE Students



Career Placement for Our Alumni



PSE remains one of the largest academic centers for polymer research in the world. PSE has a long tradition of training well-rounded graduates for leadership positions in industry, academic, and government. This large community of outstanding citizens continues to represent a distinct strength of our program. The success of our alumni is strongly linked to the broad and deep educational experience provided by our department. We do not train students in traditional silos of polymer chemists, polymer physics, or polymer engineers but rather we train the next generation of exceptional leaders for the soft materials community. We provide a broad education, spanning core principles in synthetic chemistry, physical chemistry, materials science, and engineering. There are few departments in the US or World that provide deeper and broader educational experiences than PSE. The great varieties of polymers, and the interdisciplinary nature of polymer science, provide an ideal platform to teach core scientific principles found in traditional disciplines like chemistry, physics, materials science, and chemical engineering.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Graduate Program Director, Department Chair, or Front Office Staff. Relevant information is provided on our [contact page](#). To apply, please visit the [UMass Graduate School website](#).

Respectfully,

Gregory N. Tew
Graduate Program Director