Georgia Mason

Finalist

Canadian Association for Graduate Studies

Award for Outstanding Graduate Mentorship

2018

Georgia Mason, a Professor of Animal Welfare in the Department of Animal Biosciences at the University of Guelph, is an extraordinary mentor. She has supervised over 50 graduate students and helped them find fulfilling post-graduate positions, many becoming successful leaders in academia and policymaking globally. Through activities like regular journal clubs and collaborative grant-writing, she promotes critical thinking and scholarly rigour. Most of Dr. Mason's students hold prestigious awards such as NSERC and Ontario Graduate Scholarships. Students of Dr. Mason are prolific publishers, and each graduate typically finishes their degree with at least two publications (coursework students included), and some with as many as ten. As graduate coordinator for the department, her mentorship and advocacy further extends to some 150 students.

"Prof. Mason is a phenomenal role model for any scientist in training, but particularly for aspiring female scientists" recalls a former student. Through her tireless, multifaceted approach to mentoring, Dr. Mason inspires students to reach their full potential in ways that are tailored to each individual. She cultivates a supportive and collaborative laboratory environment, while also allowing students to learn independently. Outside of academic life, Dr. Mason provides assistance and support to international students adjusting to life in Canada. In the words of a current student, "her devotion and enthusiasm serve as a driving force for me, and an endless source of motivation for the whole group. She instills a deep love for hypothesis-driven science, logical thinking, and scientific integrity."

Georgia Mason is a Professor of Animal Welfare and Graduate Coordinator in the Department of Animal Biosciences at the University of Guelph. She trained at Cambridge and Oxford Universities before moving to Canada to take up a Canada Research Chair in 2004.

UNIVERSITY of GUELPH