Earning a Ph.D. in the Joint Doctoral Program with UCSD

General Comments
Requirements for entry into the Joint Doctoral Program are essentially identical to UCSD. Their details can be found at the UCSD web page, http://www-chem.ucsd.edu/academic/Grad/JDP/index.cfm. The following is a summary of the sequential requirements for earning a Ph.D. in Chemistry & biochemistry through the SDSU/UCSD program. The Ph.D. degree requires five or more years of classes and research under the supervision of a SDSU faculty advisor. You are responsible for complying with the procedures, regulations and deadlines as described in both SDSU and UCSD institutions. At times, this can be complex due to different regulations and rules from two universities, graduate divisions and departments. Questions concerning graduate study in the Joint Doctoral Program should be referred to (Rita Baumann in the Graduate Division at SDSU, rita.baumann@sdsu.edu and her phone number is (619) 594-1504, Sonha Castelli in the Student Affairs Office at UCSD, (858) 534-6871, email sncastelli@AD.UCSD.edu or the SDSU Graduate Advisor, Dr. Cole. While the Department of Chemistry Graduate advisors at both UCSD and SDSU will do their best to keep you informed of procedures, you are ultimately responsible for meeting the requirements and timely academic progress.

Earning your Ph.D. takes ability and a lot of work and especially perseverance to succeed. Everyone in the Joint Doctoral Program begins in our Master's of Science program. There are a number of requirements that need to meet in order to be accepted into the joint doctoral program. This includes meeting all of the requirements to attaining Classified Graduate Standing and establishing your research program. Details are found in the JDP Application Check List. Usually one applies to this program while in their second semester of graduate study. It is an excellent idea that you begin to consider the requirements of application to the JDP in your first semester of study, shortly after arriving on campus. However, a number of students have applied to the Ph.D. program in their second or third year of graduate study. A minor point of confusion, once in the Joint Doctoral Program, typically your second year of your graduate study, is called your first year (in the JDP) and description of the timeline is relative to that of the UCSD students.

1. Submit JDP Application. The JDP applications are due the first Friday in May. The JDP Application Check List details what need to be included in your application packet. This list is available from the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry Office or from the Graduate Advisor. Be sure to begin this process well in advance of the deadline. The essential parts of the packet are:

1. Fill out the JDP-10 form.
2. Meet all requirements for Classified Graduate Standing status.
3. Complete Application for Classified Graduate Standing form. Note this is a different form than item #2 above. You may need to request copies undergraduate transcripts that we not requested for your application to SDSU. We will need foreign transcripts in both languages.
4. We will attach a copy of your general GRE scores. If these are significantly less than 50 percentile, consider retaking this exam.
5. Attach your chemistry or biochemistry GRE subject score. Again, if these scores have been sent to SDSU, we will attach to your packet. Note, GRE exams must be less than 5 years old.
6. If you are a non-native English speaker, please include your TOEFL score. We will attach your most recent copy. TOEFL exam score must be less than 2 years old.
7. The Department will attach an official transcript after the end of the spring semester. Your graduate GPA should be approximately 3.5 or higher.
8. Establish your research program, very important for item. Do not neglect the importance of this!
9. Arrange to have three letters of recommendation; one must be from your research advisor.
10. Attach a statement of purpose, 1-2 pages in length.

2. SDSU Evaluation of Application. The SDSU Department of Chemistry Graduate Committee will evaluate your application shortly after spring semester final exams. In a few cases, you may be advised to reapply the following year in order to prepare a stronger application.

3. UCSD Evaluation of Application. Applicants recommended for the Joint Doctoral Program will be forwarded to the UCSD graduate committee early June for their evaluation. DO NOT COMPLETE THE UCSD ONLINE APPLICATION IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY THE SDSU GRADUATE PROGRAM. THE APPLICATION FEE WILL NOT BE RETURNED.

4. Confirmation. You will be contacted by both your research advisor and UCSD Chemistry & Biochemistry indicating their recommendation for your admission into the JDP, mid to late July. You will then receive an email notification from the Office of Graduate Studies (OGS) offering acceptance into the JDP with a link to the UCSD online registration page. Fees can be paid by credit card. You do not need to include your personal statement nor letters of recommendation since those have already been submitted. After the completion of the online application, you will be sent the Graduate Intent to Register and Statement of Legal Residence forms. Complete them and return by mail to:

   University of California, San Diego  
   Graduate Admissions, MC 0086  
   402 University Center  
   9500 Gilman Drive  
   La Jolla, CA 92093-0086

You must return the completed documents within 3 weeks of receiving the email notification. UCSD will also mail the JDP-1 form, Notice of Admission to a Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program form which the student must complete and return in the self addressed envelope (or to the address, above).

5. Additional Forms. After you returned the Graduate Intent to Register and acceptance process has been successfully completed, OGS will send you a Certificate of Admission. You should receive information from the UCSD Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry regarding orientation, placement exams, UCSD email accounts and general information regarding the beginning of the fall term by mid August.

6. Fees. You do not pay fees at UCSD during your year of residency (first year JDP) since you do not register there. However, you must register for 6 units of Chem 897 at SDSU. Once you returned your acceptance letter, SDSU will inform the UCSD Registrar's Office so you will be allowed to enroll. Nevertheless, JDP students are responsible for parking, books, supplies and other related items. It is very important that you enroll before the deadline, otherwise you will be assessed a $50 late penalty. Be sure to check the UCSD Chemistry JDP web page that directs you to the UCSD Registration and Degree Deadlines for the upcoming year.

Financial Aid for JDP students: Fill out FAFSA with SDSU (School code: 001151), and the SDSU Doctoral Student Questionnaire. You will need to then go to UCSD or order online a "Verification of Enrollment" and then return this to the SDSU financial aid office. For JDP students enrolled less than half time at SDSU, you will need to verify enrollment for at least half time in order to receive a disbursement check. You will need to complete Part I and then submit the Verification of Enrollment to the joint school for completion and signature of Part II. The verification can be faxed to the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. UCSD will not fill out the form from SDSU. You will need to pay them $16 for a rush pickup or $6 to have it mailed 3 business days.
At this point you should look over the **JDP Student Handbook** regarding information about UCSD and where to go for help and information. This PDF document is also found on the UCSD JDP web page.

7. **Orientation.** You will need to arrive on UCSD campus approximately two weeks before the beginning of the fall term for orientation and exams. This is approximately a week after Labor Day weekend. If you have passed the ACS orientation exams, 2000 or more recent, here at SDSU, you may not need to take them at UCSD. Check with either the UCSD or SDSU Graduate Advisor to confirm which exams you will need to take. The results of these placement exams will impact on which courses you will take. You are required to pass either these exams or classes (B or higher) in three of the five areas, one of which must be in your area of research by the end of Spring quarter, or take the deficiency courses (up to 12 units of 100 level courses can be used).

8. **TOFEL Exam and Evaluation.** Non-English speaking students will meet with a language advisor to determine your ability to be a TA at UCSD. During the Orientation week you will meet with a linguist at the Center for Teaching Development. This oral exam will either result in you earning a passing score on the English Language Proficiency Exam, or you will be required to take an English and Communication class first, followed by the proficiency exam at the end of the Fall quarter. You must get a pass before you can TA at UCSD. Students who do not earn a Pass on the Proficiency Examination by the end of the spring quarter in their year at UCSD may be dismissed from the program.

9. **Assign Graduate Advisor.** JDP students are assigned a graduate advisor based on their research area. This advisor will help design your curriculum for the three quarters while at UCSD. These courses are based on your area of research and your placement exams. The UCSD graduate advisor may periodically review your progress.

10. **Teaching at UCSD.** All JDP students teach one quarter while in residency at UCSD. Generally most students teach during the winter term, although some may teach in the spring. During that semester you will register for Chem 500, (Teaching), adding 4 units of classes for that term. As a result, you need only take 2 other 4 unit courses that term.

11. **Course Load at UCSD.** While at UCSD, you must register for 12 units of courses each quarter for a total of 36 units. At least 24 units must be at the graduate level, (numbered 200-500) and up to 12 units at the upper-division (numbered 100-199). The upper-division courses can be used to meet any deficiencies from the orientation exams. Your UCSD graduate advisor will recommend courses that best fit your area of research and interest. It is suggested that you talk to older JDP students for their recommendations of class selections. All courses taken in your first year must be for a letter grade, unless the course is offered as a S/U only, i.e., Chem 500. You can take courses form other departments, such as Biology, Physics, School of Medicine and at Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Chem 250 seminar (2 units) is required. Students present a brief seminar on their first year research experience or literature. This is the only seminar course that counts towards the 12 unit/quarter or the 36 total units requirements. Students are encouraged to take other seminars, Chem 227, 293, 294, 295 or 296, but these courses do not count towards the 36-unit requirement. Advisors must approve any changes to a course program. This includes adds, drops, unit changes and grading option changes. However, it is important that you continue your research at SDSU while in residency at UCSD, albeit at a lower level. Your academic performances in UCSD classes nevertheless are essential!

Once students have meet any deficiency requirements from the orientation exams, or those who have passed three or more exams may register for Chem 297 starting in the winter term. You may take up to 8 units of Chem 297, but not more than 4 units per term. The research project must be of mutual interest between your faculty research advisor (SDSU) and a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at
UCSD. The **JDP Collaborative Research** application for Chem 297 can be obtained from the Sonha Castelli in the UCSD Chemistry Office at least 3 working days before the enrollment deadline. Your research advisor, UCSD research collaborator, Vice Chair of Graduate Education and the SDSU Graduate Advisor, signs this. You must petition of each term that you take the collaborative research course. Chemistry 299 (Thesis Research) cannot be used and is not counted towards either the 12 unit/quarter or the 36 total unit requirement.

12. **GPA.** You must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher throughout your year in residency. If your grades drop below a 3.0, you will be disqualified from the program. In addition, you must not accumulate more that a total of eight units of unsatisfactory grades overall.

13. **Annual Research Progress Reports.** You will need to submit an annual research progress reports each year. This is the same requirement for the SDSU MS students. This report is in the format of a full paper as determined by your SDSU research advisor. The format depends on the journal where this work will be submitted and may change as you publish papers and complete phases of your research. Students in their year of residency at UCSD are also expected to submit a report. This requires that you continue your working on your research project, at a somewhat reduced pace. These reports are submitted to your research advisor for their approval by July 1 for first year JDP students and June 1 for second and beyond JDPs. Be sure to discuss the format of this paper with your research advisor well in advance of the deadlines.

14. **Registration.** It is important that you pay the SDSU mandatory campus fees before the first day of the fall and spring semesters. If you don't you will also be paying late fees. You can not register until this fee is paid. The deadlines for the summer sessions vary and you should refer to cashier web site for this date if you plan to register for a class during the summer.

15. **Register for Chem 897.** After you have returned from your year of residency at UCSD, you will continue to register for all your classes at SDSU. All doctoral research is done under Chem 897 and everyone one registers for 6 units of Chem 897 until you have been advanced to candidacy. You may take additional courses at UCSD in your second and later years without cost. First, inform UCSD Chemistry & Biochemistry Student Affairs Office about your intent to enroll in an upcoming quarter. However, the student must pay any courses taken at SDSU. The only fees that you must pay are the SDSU mandatory campus fees, currently $483/semester.

16. **UCSD Annual Evaluation.** Your research advisor will send a form regarding your annual evaluation in mid-August of each year, except those who have submitted their advancement to candidacy paperwork in the past year. This is part of a substantive evaluation of the academic, research and teaching performance, with regard to your strengths, weaknesses and progress toward the Ph.D. degree. Your research advisor may discuss the details of their comments with you and you may write your own comments. You will need to sign this evaluation. Copies of these become part of the student's files with copies are sent to OGS. Students who have been advanced to candidacy will also be reviewed and signed by two members of their committee.

17. **Second Year (Departmental) Exam.** In your second year in the JDP you will give an oral exam during the winter term. Suggestions to aid your preparation are found in a UCSD Chemistry & Biochemistry web page entitled dept-1.exam.hints. Carefully read over this material. **Do not underestimate the importance of this examination!** You will be given one or more recent journal articles in your research area to present in detail. It is strongly recommended that you begin scheduling this exam early in the winter term. It can be difficult to schedule a time that all committee members can attend. This exam must be completed by the end of the winter term. Failure to complete is grounds for dismissal. Your paper(s) are given exactly two weeks in advance of the presentation. Your committee may also ask questions about your research as well. This closed presentation will be attended by only committee members composed of one faculty member in your research area from
UCSD, one from SDSU and a third member from UCSD outside your area of research. The Graduate Affairs Committee determines committee membership. Your research advisor is not present for this exam, nor can they assist you in preparation for this exam. Your committee may make suggestions as part of your final second year exam report. You are strongly encouraged to heed to those comments, since they may be reviewed at your third year exam.

18. Optional MA Degree. After you have passed the second year exam (presentation) you can apply for a MA degree. See the SDSU Chemistry Graduate Advisor for this procedure. You will need to take Chem 790 for the MA degree.

19. Chem 791 Seminar. It is highly recommended that you present a research seminar on your research project either during your second or third year in the JDP. This seminar will help you develop skills to organize and present information. Also, this will help other students appreciate and become aware of your research. You should not register for this class since you will be presenting this on a voluntary basis with approval of the instructor. You are also strongly encouraged to attend and participate in the graduate student run Journal Club that meets on Friday afternoons. You should also be routinely attending departmental seminars at SDSU and UCSD.

20. Third Year (Qualifying) Exam and Advanced to Candidacy. The next major requirement is the third year exam. Generally this is taken in your fourth year of the SDSU graduate study. Note this must be completed before the end of the spring term, typically this is done during the winter term. This exam is similar to a Chemistry 791 research seminar. This final oral examination will advance you to candidacy. Read over the material described in the UCSD web document titled: policy-1.jdp.exam for the details.

• Doctoral Committee. First, you need to officially constitute your committee. The committee members consist of at least six members, three of which served on your second year Departmental Exam Committee.

Member 1 SDSU, Thesis Advisor, chair
Member 2 SDSU, Chemistry, served on second year Departmental Exam Committee
Member 3 SDSU, non-Chemistry
Member 4 UCSD, Chem & Biochem, served on second year Departmental Exam Committee
Member 5 UCSD, Chem & Biochem, served on second year Departmental Exam Committee
Member 6 UCSD, non-Chemistry & Biochemistry

Additional members can be added. Details for the committee membership can be found in the policy-1.jdp.exam.

Thus, you will only need to find two additional committee members from your second year exam. You will need to get approval for these additional committee members from Sonha Castelli in the Student Affairs Office. Then you can pick up a copy of the JDP-2 form from either SDSU Chemistry Office or from Sonha. It takes time to get all of the signatures, plan for at least three full weeks prior to your presentation. This includes both advisors and Deans at SDSU and UCSD. At this time you need confirm with all of the committee members the date and time of the exam. The signed form must be submitted at least two full weeks before the scheduled presentation.

• Oral Qualifying Exam. This exam is for the students to gain approval of their proposed thesis research project from the Doctoral Committee. This exam takes place at UCSD. It is scheduled at least two weeks in advanced. You must also submit an abstract, approximately two pages in length, single spaced as a...
comprehensive description of the proposed thesis research with key references and detail; the significance of this progress and progress to date. You will give a 30-minute presentation is given followed by question-answer period which the committee examines the students for their knowledge, insight, motivation and a demonstrated productivity required to produce an acceptable thesis in a reasonable amount of time. Expect questions on any of the background material that you presented during your talk. In addition, any comments given to you during the second year exam may be revisited. You should be able to demonstrate that you have acted upon and improved since those comments were made a year earlier. On the day of the examination, your Thesis Advisor will pick-up your file from Sonha in the Student Affairs Office. This contains "Report of Qualifying Examination and Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry" (JDP-3) and a UCSD internal form. Your advisor is responsible for returning the signed forms to Sonha. The committee will inform you whether you may Pass, Provisionally Pass or Fail the exam. Any comments or recommendations will be written on the internal form. The original copy stays in your file and you will get a copy of this. This presentation must be given before the end of your 9th quarter in the JDP. However, you are strongly encouraged to finish your third exam earlier. Note, you cannot graduate within 9 months of passing the third year exam.

• **Paperwork and Fee Payment** Once you have passed the Oral Qualifying Examination and the committee has signed the JDP-3 form, "Report of Qualifying Examination and Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry," both graduate advisors from UCSD and SDSU must sign this form. Once this form is complete with required signatures, you will be able to pick up this form and pay the $90 Advancement to Candidacy fee at the UCSD Cashier Office. Next, this form is taken to OGS. Office of Graduate Studies signs and forwards it to SDSU Graduate Division for that Dean to sign.

• The semester after you have been advanced to candidacy you need to register for 3 units of Chem 897 and 3 units of Chem 899 (dissertation) at SDSU. The following semester you will be allowed to register for either 3 units of Chem 897 (research) or 3 units of Chem 899 (dissertation) through the College of Extended Studies.

21. **Chem 899 Doctoral Dissertation.** Joint Doctoral Program students must register for Chem 899 the semester that they plan on submitting, defending and having their dissertation approved. Before registering for Chem 899, you should have completed a significant portion of your dissertation, because the writing and editing can take more than 4 months. The format for your dissertation follows the UCSD requirements. See the OGS web page to download the “Bluebook” formatting manual. You only need to register for 3 units of Chem 899 that semester.

22. **Preparation of Dissertation (Thesis) Defense.** When you are getting close to finishing and are nearing approval from your advisor, you need to pay attention to the deadlines and other requirements.

Important Web Pages:

- OGS Deadlines: [http://ogs.ucsd.edu/AcademicAffairs/Deadlines/Pages/default.aspx](http://ogs.ucsd.edu/AcademicAffairs/Deadlines/Pages/default.aspx)
- Instructions on format of thesis: [http://ogs.ucsd.edu/AcademicAffairs/Pages/DegInfo.aspx](http://ogs.ucsd.edu/AcademicAffairs/Pages/DegInfo.aspx)
- OGS Scheduling Guidelines: [https://ogs-calendar.ucsd.edu/](https://ogs-calendar.ucsd.edu/)
- Commencement Info: [http://ogs.ucsd.edu/StudentAffairs/com/Pages/default.aspx](http://ogs.ucsd.edu/StudentAffairs/com/Pages/default.aspx)

**File Application for Graduation.** You will need to submit an application for graduation at the Cashier's Office at SDSU by or before the 15th day of classes in the semester that you plan to graduate, along with the $55 fee. If you petition for late addition, you will be charged an additional $20 for late fees. This form is only available at the Graduate Division. If you do not complete all degree requirements during this semester,
(remember, your are meeting the UCSD deadlines, NOT SDSU) you will need to reapply and pay the graduation fee again.

**One Month Before Defense**

**Confirm Dissertation Committee.** Approximately one month in advance of your defense, confirm availability of your doctoral committee membership. Frequently membership may need to change due to sabbaticals, extended trips or other conflicts. If none of the members have changed from your Third year Qualifying Exam, you need to do nothing more in this step. If your Doctoral Committee has changed, contact Sonha to begin this process. First, complete the reconstitution request, giving the reasons for the change in committee membership. You can complete this from by downloading from [http://ogsweb2.ucsd.edu/form/academic/formrrcm.pdf](http://ogsweb2.ucsd.edu/form/academic/formrrcm.pdf). Complete this form and have it signed by your research advisor and take it to Sonha in the Student Affairs Office for departmental approval. Both SDSU and UCSD deans will sign it. You will also need to submit a JDP-4 form and have it signed by your SDSU Research Advisor, Dr. Donoghue, and all the committee members at SDSU before forwarding this to OGS. This needs to be completed at least two weeks prior to your defense date, but allow for 4 weeks to complete these steps.

**Schedule the Defense, Room and Equipment.** Confirm the date and time of your with all of your Doctoral Committee members, giving them a draft of your dissertation that has been fully approved by your research advisor. Email Sonha to reserve a room for your presentation. You should allow a half hour before the exam to setup and confirm operation of equipment. Sonha will also mail UCSD parking permits to the SDSU committee members.

**Schedule Appointment with OGS.** Call OGS Office (858) 534-9012, to schedule a Preliminary Appointment two to four weeks before the defense. You will need to bring completed unbound, single-sided copy on plain paper of your dissertation. The purpose of this appointment is for OGS to review the formatting of your dissertation. The OGS Academic Affairs Advisers will check your current academic status as well as formatting elements such as pagination, margins, consistency of style, figure and table placement, and all preliminary and ending pages. Students will be given surveys, and instructions on the final preparation and submission of the doctoral dissertation. The rules for the dissertation formatting are very strict, be sure to review the details found in the web link. A preliminary appointment can save you lots of work and headaches later!! Rules for thesis are available on the OGS Web page.

**Two Weeks or More Before Defense**

**Announce Dissertation Defense.** Email Sonha the exact title of your dissertation. She will post your defense information (day, time, location, thesis title) via email and on the departmental seminar Web site, [http://www-chem.ucsd.edu/seminars/seminars.cfm](http://www-chem.ucsd.edu/seminars/seminars.cfm).

**Day of the Defense**

**Defense, Paperwork and Graduating.** On the day of your defense, Sonha will have your folder with all the needed paperwork. This also included instructions on who signs what. Your research advisor will pick up your file before the defense begins from the UCSD Chemistry office and will be responsible for its return. In this file are the JDP-5 form, Alumni Information, Degree and Diploma Application and Survey of Earned Doctorate Form.

**Post Dissertation Presentation.** After you have finished your dissertation presentation, you and your Doctoral Committee will likely meet for a private conversation. It will be decided if you passed the defense and what (if any) additional experimentation or revisions to the written dissertation are required. After all the congratulations and handshakes, it is time for more paperwork. Be sure that all the committee members have signed both the JDP-5 form and dissertation signature page (make an extra copies and have them sign that as
well). UCSD Student Affairs Office will get the necessary signatures for the Report of Final Examination and Filing of Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry Form (JDP-5) and General Petition (if applicable) forms. They will email you when the forms are ready for your pick-up.

Normally there is some minor editing that needs to be finished before the final copy of your thesis can be submitted. Be sure to get this done while it is all fresh in your mind. You can't really finish until you have a final copy of your thesis ready. When this is done, schedule an appointment with OGS. Information is available at their web page: https://ogs-calendar.ucsd.edu/.

1. Alumni Information Form (UCSD Chemistry retains). Your research advisor gives you this form at the time of your defense. Only your signature is needed. It gives UCSD Chemistry your post-graduation plans and a post-graduation address.

2. Degree and Diploma Application (OGS Final Appointment). This form is also given to you at the defense. Again, only your signature is needed. This is used to generate and mail your diploma. The address must match that on your Report of Final Examination and Filing of Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry Form (JDP-5). Give this form to OGS when you turn in your paperwork and your dissertation.

3. Survey of Earned Doctoral Degree Form (OGS Final Appointment.). This form is given to you at the Preliminary Dissertation Appointment. Make of copy of this for the SDSU Graduate Division Office (Rita Bauman).

4. UCSD Survey of Graduate Degree Recipients (Exit Survey) (OGS Final Appointment). This form is given out at the Preliminary Dissertation Appointment.

5. Report of Final Examination and Filing of Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry Form (JDP-5) (OGS Final Appointment). The JDP-5 form is found in your file given to your advisor at the time of the defense. The entire committee signs this on successful completion of the defense. This form was returned along with the rest of the student's file to the UCSD Chemistry & Biochemistry Student Affairs Office by your research advisor. Dr. Donoghue signs it along with the SDSU Graduate Advisor, Dr. Cole. Sonha will notify you when it is ready for you to pick-up for your final OGS appointment.

6. Copy of Thesis (OGS Final Appointment). You must submit an electronic version of your dissertation prior to your final appointment. The dissertation must be in its final format form. Instructions for electronic submission are found in the "Preparation and Submission Manual for Doctoral Dissertations and Master's Theses" found on the OGS web page. OGS will submit a copy of your thesis to the UCSD library.

The Paperwork SDSU
After your dissertation has been accepted by OGS and the JDP-5 form is signed and sent to SDSU, bring a copy of your title and signature pages to Rita Baumann in the Graduate Division (SSE-1410). You should also bring a copy of the Survey of Earned Doctoral Degree Form from UCSD. She will check to see that you have registered for Chem 899 the correct semester. You will be given a clearance sheet that you take along with the final copy of your dissertation on 100% cotton to Montezuma Publishing (three doors down from the Chemistry Shop. IT-104) and a check to pay for the binding of your dissertation. They will send Rita a copy of the binding receipt and have the JDP-5 form signed and sent back to OGS. Your degree will be officially posted about a month later. Be sure to order any extra copies that you need for yourself and your research advisor etc.
Congratulations!!!!! Now your life can go on.