Provide resources to graduate students to support enhanced numbers of student-initiated research proposals. Website published for grad students; links to info about opportunities for student-initiated resources, comprehensive info about VT workshop and course resources to help students learn to write successful proposals. Discussions underway about funding sources to bridge financial gaps

2. Make a focused effort to solicit donations for endowed graduate fellowships. Goal set to raise $75M in the next Campaign to endow new graduate fellowships.

4. Implement a modified version of the Candidacy Status resolution passed by the University Council in spring 2019. Implementation under way.

5. Expand mentorship training to include all new assistant professors. “Train-the-trainer” program with college trainers over the winter session, 2021-2022.

10. Develop standard phrasing to properly convey intentions to employ graduate students for multiple years. On grad school website.

7. Implement a Professional Development Graduate Certificate. Being created.

8. Increase the minimum assistantship stipend rate to match the minimum rates of Virginia Tech’s aspirational peers. Dashboard in beta version for GPDs.


14. Enhance the role of the Graduate School in graduate program review and evaluation for continuous improvement. Agreement has been reached with Academic Assessment office to include the Graduate School in all graduate program reviews. Details being worked out.

6. Implement 360º feedback for tenure-track faculty (TTF). Not begun (will involve faculty and grad student senates)

11. Enhance Office of Sponsored Programs support to faculty preparing research funding proposals. Collaboration between Graduate School and OVPR to continue in conversations this fall.

12. Co-locate OSP staff in colleges and enhance agency-specific expertise and relationships. Referred to OVPR for consideration this fall. Graduate School and OVPR.

13. Adopt a hybrid model where the Graduate School assists departments and programs to improve graduate recruiting. Conversations under way

From “21st Century Graduate Education: Implementing Recommendations of the National Academies and the VT Grad Ed Task Force,” a presentation for the Academy for Teaching Excellence, by Dr. Kevin J. Edgar, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, October 11, 2021