



Building Community Through Transformational Professional and Personal Development Experiences for Graduate Students

Appalachian  
STATE UNIVERSITY.

# Community is important to graduate students



The graduate student experience goes far beyond that of the academic realm.

It's our belief that the graduate student experience is multidimensional and inclusive of the development of professional skills, the strengthening of mental and emotional health, the discovery of leadership ability and much more.



At an annual symposium in 2009, Scott Collard and Lucinda Covert-Vail from New York University suggested **there is no such thing as “a single graduate student type.”** The presenters found the **needs of graduate students vary but, in general, converge around the areas of community, student services and space.**

Graduate students no longer want to be confined to a few study rooms at the campus library; **they want resources that support their learning both inside and outside of the classroom.**

Because of the importance of “community” and its positive influence on student satisfaction, **universities are encouraged not to consider graduate students as outliers and to intentionally program events and efforts to bolster their sense of community.**

...though graduate students may be more inclined to infer they “didn’t come to graduate school to make friends,” **they may still use language such as a desired “connection with my classmates and faculty” or “build my network”** instead of the classic term “community” to describe their sentiment.

The **evolution**  
A DESTINY SOLUTIONS ILLUMINATION


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### Creating Community for Graduate Students (Part 1)

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### Creating Community for Graduate Students (Part 2)

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Creating a community for graduate and non-traditional students is critical to provide them a space to come together and connect with each other and their institution.

Developing space requires a financial investment. However, the investment is important to help graduate students feel connected to the campus and to **give them a place to call home** at the university....online graduate students could also benefit from having a cyber café for their program area to post messages, share photos and videos and forward interesting news and information.

What “non-academic” (professional and personal) characteristics are essential for graduate students to develop while pursuing their degree?



# Creative problem solving

Step 1: Each person selects an identity from the grid you are provided.

Step 2: How would this person/character/entity approach the following:

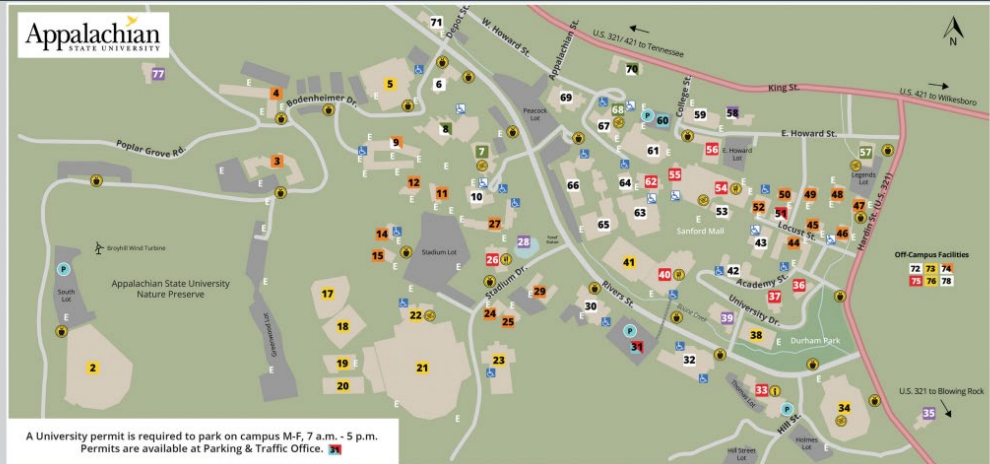
**What experiences would you create to build community among graduate students?**

Step 3: Share at your table how each of you responded to the prompt.

Step 4: Capture your best ideas and prepare to share a few of them with the entire room.



# Who are/will be your campus partners to assist you with building the graduate student



## Academic Buildings

- 63 Arnie Belk Hall
- 64 Appalachian Hall
- 74 Appalachian Panhellenic Hall (1011 Howard St.)
- 71 Beasley Media Complex
- 61 Belk Library and Information Commons
- 61 Broyhill Music Center
- 67 Chapel Wilson Hall
- 66 Edwin Duncan Hall
- 30 Garwood Hall
- 38 Howard Street Hall
- 42 I.G. Greer Hall
- 32 Katherine Harper Hall
- 78 Leon Levine Health Sciences (1179 South Main Rd.)
- 91 Living Learning Center
- 53 L.S. Dougherty Building
- 69 Peacock Hall
- 65 Rankin Sciences
- 59 Reich College of Education
- 43 Sanford Hall
- 64 Smith-Wright Hall
- 76 Turchin Center for the Visual Arts
- 72 University Hall (1011 Howard St.)
- 6 Walker Hall
- 10 Wey Hall

## Athletics/Recreation

- 76 Appalachian Soccer Stadium (1011 Howard St.)
- 38 Bob Light Tennis Courts (Durham Park)
- 34 Holmes Convocation Center
- 21 Kidd Brewer Stadium
- 22 Owens Field House
- 23 Quinn Recreation Center
- 2 Smith Baseball Stadium
- 18 South Field Indoor Practice Facility
- 73 State Farm Fields Complex/Brandon and Erica M. Adcock Field (1011 Howard St.)
- 5 Students Recreation Center
- 17 Swassink/Lloyd Softball Stadium
- 19 Track and Field Throwing Areas
- 41 Varsity Gymnasium
- 20 Varsity Tennis Courts

## Additional Locations

- 77 Child Development Center
- 56 Lucy Brook Child Development Center (Howard Street Hall)
- 35 McKinney Alumni Center
- 39 Steam Plant
- 6 Tomlinson Park/Duck Pond

## Residence Halls

- 31 Appalachian Heights
- 74 Appalachian Panhellenic Hall (1011 Howard St.)
- 11 Belk Residence Hall
- 15 Bowie Residence Hall
- 46 Cannon Residence Hall
- 25 Cozane Residence Hall
- 50 Cone Residence Hall
- 48 Doughton Residence Hall
- 44 East Residence Hall
- 14 Eggers Residence Hall
- 12 Frank Residence Hall
- 24 Gardner Residence Hall
- 47 Hoey Residence Hall
- 29 Justice Residence Hall
- 91 Living Learning Center
- 45 Lovill Residence Hall
- 4 Mountaineer Residence Hall
- 27 Newland Residence Hall
- 52 Summit Residence Hall
- 49 White Residence Hall

## Student Support/Administration/Dining

- 54 Appalachian Hall
- 37 B.B. Dougherty Administration Building
- 62 D.D. "Discor" Dougherty Hall
- 36 Founders Hall
- 73 Human Resources Bldg. (1011 Howard St.)
- 33 John E. Thomas Hall (Admissions)
- 56 Miles Annas Student Support Building (Health Services/Post Office)
- 54 Plimmons Student Union/Solarium
- 40 Ross Dining Hall
- 26 Trivette Dining Hall
- 55 University Bookstore
- 31 University Police

## Arts & Cultural Venues

- 61 Broyhill Music Center
- 57 Legends
- 77 Schaefer Center for the Performing Arts
- 76 Turchin Center for the Visual Arts
- 63 Valborg Theatre

## Visitor Parking

- 60 College Street Parking Deck
- 31 University Police/Traffic and Parking Department/Rivers Street Parking Deck

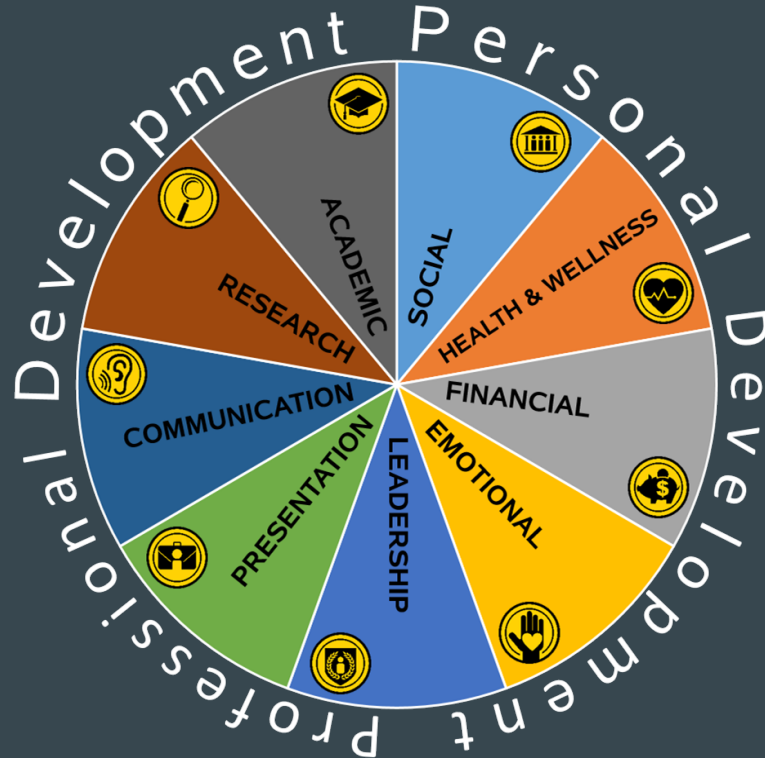
- 60 AppalCART Stop
- 60 Tickets
- 60 Dining
- 60 Info
- 60 Visitor Parking
- 60 Handicap Parking/Access Ramps
- 60 Emergency Blue Light Phones



# Trails to Success

Transformational Professional & Personal Development for Appalachian State Graduate Students

Our program mission is to provide inclusive, comprehensive and transformational professional and personal development, to promote the advancement of transferable skills and ongoing success, for a diverse graduate student community as they contribute within a global society and workforce.



NYC Career Trek

Graduate Student Life Advisory Board



Meet & Eats  
Pop-Up GLCs

On Demand Workshops

Graduate Education Week

3MT Competition

Orientations

Library Workshops  
Turchin Center Events  
Wellness Center Events  
Counseling Center Events