Creating a space and a place for graduate education

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the what....

the how...
...and the why
If lasting institutional reform is to be achieved, it will require changes in graduate education, with greater emphasis upon the integration of disciplines and their applications to societal issues. Preparation for leadership should be a part of graduate education....

James Duderstadt, 2001
Conceptual Age
“We are moving from an economy and a society built on the logical, linear, computer-like capabilities of the Information Age to an economy and a society built on the inventive, empathic, big-picture capabilities of what’s rising in its place, the Conceptual Age.”

— Pink, 2005
not just function but....

design
not just an argument but...

a story
not just focus but also…

symphony
not just logic but also … empathy
the confluence of the 21st century university and conceptual age

rethinking and re-imagining graduate education
Graduate School (Graduate College)
Graduate Life Center
Transformative Graduate Education (TGE) Initiative
Graduate school....

- **responsive, integrative, interactive, inclusive & innovative**
- a space and place for graduate education
- incorporates building academic communities
- has power to convene
- has responsibility for change
- must be strategic and lead transformation
challenges and differing perspectives

students
faculty
departments
university policies
student affairs perspectives
• value-added to graduate degree (professional development)
• compliments not duplicates departmental efforts
• incentives (certificates, academic credit)
• commitment of time by Dean
• utilize resources within Graduate School
• share and sustain resources
• dynamic and evolving; meaningful and relevant
VT Graduate School: unique and innovative
transforming graduate education through initiatives and programs
Transformative Graduate Education (TGE)

- Knowledge
- Scholarly Inquiry
- Leadership
- Responsibility

Technology, diversity, interdisciplinary, ethics, & global

DePauw 2003 (rev 2017)
Transformative Graduate Education (TGE)

Preparation Future Professoriate (PFP)
Career Professional (PFPro)
Academy for GTA Excellence
Citizen Scholar Engagement (CSE)
Citizen Scholars
Communication Science & Public Engagement
Technology, diversity, interdisciplinary, ethics, & global

Knowledge
Leadership
Scholarly Inquiry
Responsibility

DePauw 2003 (rev 2017)
Graduate Courses & Certificates

• Preparing the Future Professoriate (3) *
• PFP: Global Perspectives (3)
• GTA Workshop (1)
• Contemporary Pedagogy (3) *
• Library Research Skills (1)
• Interdisciplinary Research in Science & Engineering (1-3)
• Ethics and Responsible Conduct of Research (2)

• Citizen Scholar Seminar (3)
• Preparing Future Career Professional (3)
• Industrial Professional in Science & Engineering (3)
• Diversity & inclusion for a global society (3)
• Communicating Science (2)
• International Research (3)
• Interdisciplinary Research & Graduate Education (3)
14 IGEPs
~180 students
~270 faculty

iPhD = 5+
Ethics Commons
A space for conversation and reflection on graduate life

VT Ethics Mandate

GRAD 5014 (2) Ethics requirement plans
Academy for GTA Excellence

VTGrATE

Discuss Pedagogy

The VT Graduate Academy for Teaching Excellence serves as a community hub for graduate students who are interested in teaching to connect with each other as well as faculty, staff, and other campus resources.

Slow Scholarship and Building Community to Thrive in Graduate School

Pedagogy Resource Repository

The VT Graduate Academy for Teaching Excellence hosts a wealth of pedagogical resources that may help one improve their teaching.

Service Work

The VT Graduate Academy for Teaching Excellence provides service to the campus and broader community by providing some human, technical, and other resources in support of teaching and improving one's pedagogy.

Research and Funding

This blog post is in part processing a few research thoughts and working on research statements for my Feminist Research Methods course. Last week was Grad Ed Week at Tech. Part of what that brought...
13 years
160+ participants
6 summits at Swiss Embassy
6 web published manuals
Office of Recruitment and Diversity Initiatives

Students in the Graduate Life Center study room

Funding Opportunities
Various forms of funding are available to students and academic departments to support the recruitment and retention of top candidates. The Graduate School's Dean Diversity Assistantships are given to faculty-nominated students who demonstrate strong academic abilities and are underrepresented in their field. These are two-year assistantships with one year of funding provided by the Graduate School and year two funding provided by the department.

Recruiting and graduating the leaders of tomorrow

Diversity Scholars Program
Diversity Scholars are graduate students who specialize in and advocate for the awareness, knowledge and skills associated with diversity and inclusion in the Graduate School and community. The goal of the Diversity Scholars Program is to create dialogue, provide advocacy, and implement change for a more diverse and inclusive experience for all graduate students, faculty, staff, and administration. The Scholars do this in many forms such as influencing curriculum or research agendas, providing leadership and educational tools for effective communication and multicultural competencies, and implementing programming aimed at increasing awareness of global and social justice issues.

www.graduateschool.vt.edu/diversity

Students are encouraged to take GRAD 5214: Diversity and Inclusion for a Global Society as well as participate in campus activities which promote diversity and inclusion. Students are nominated for this program and are offered a modest compensation upon completion. Diversity Scholars are expected to mentor future Diversity Scholars and continue participation in the program to graduation.

HBCU/MSI Research Summit
Building Community(ies):
diverse, inclusive & global

• holistic admissions
• diversity requirement
• health and wellness space
• climate survey
• post admissions student services survey
• work-life grants
• connect lunches, GSA welcome socials
• and more
Childcare Options

Babysitter Clearinghouse

The Babysitter Clearinghouse is an initiative aimed at creating a pool of qualified babysitters in the area for Graduate Student families to access as a resource. Learn more about the program here.

Cooperative Playgroup

The Virginia Tech Graduate School Child Play Group (VT-GS-CPG) is a parent-run cooperative playgroup for children between the ages of 2 and 5 with a paid on-site program director. Learn more about the program here.

and parent/family support group
Disrupting Academic Bullying

To maintain a culture of civility throughout the graduate education experience, academic bullying is unacceptable and should not be tolerated.
VT Graduate Life Center

Residences

Academic, Cultural & Social Programs

Graduate Student Organizations Offices

Graduate School Offices

GLC Plaza, amphitheater and cafe
“Having a space and a place for graduate education important and Donaldson Brown provides the physical space and institutional place for 21st century graduate education… will provide space for …important support services (childcare, wellness, counseling, etc.)…It will also provide the place for and environment through which intellectual engagement and academic discourse will permeate the hall of the academic institution (e.g., seminar rooms, library, wellness, coffee house, etc.)…will serve as a hub of energy and focus on graduate education. There will be no other place like this in the nation.”

(DePauw, 2002).
partnerships and collaborations have developed
much has been accomplished and efforts continue
Struggles and missions not yet accomplished

student life policies
university procedures
coffee shop
cobblestone cafe
GLC dog
graduate students are not older undergraduates
VT Graduate School: unique and innovative

class transforming graduate education
through ....
....building vibrant inclusive graduate community

and
understanding cultural change and building a new culture with new traditions and expectations
changing the rhetoric and reality of graduate education
from surviving.....

to thriving
and much more...
Charge to Graduate Deans and Graduate Schools

Challenge to Student Affairs Colleagues
see things differently and look for the ‘unobvious’
build a new culture with new meaningful and relevant programs
Graduate school and partners…

- be responsive, integrative, interactive, inclusive & innovative
- create a space and place for graduate education
- build academic communities
- be strategic and lead transformation
...it would be wise to acknowledge and understand the current and future challenges facing this system and take steps now to ensure that it remains vital, adaptable, and relevant for many generations to come. To neglect graduate education, or to ignore threats to its success, puts the economic, social, and cultural well-being of the nation at risk. (p. 19, 2018)
... the why
the what....

the how....
What programs do you currently offer?

professional development
What things do you want to learn?
a space and place for graduate education
What are your key take-aways?
What additional **topics** for more information?
How will you create a space and a place?

communicate

form partnerships

lead to do

set goals outreach

share ideas reasoning

create welcoming spaces
discern needs

collaborate diversity

discuss more events

develop community

focus on community

lobby newsletter

being more active listen

carving out our own space

partner partnership

accessibility events

get provost to buy in

build partnerships

ladder to bigger programming

graduate library space

build traditions

new location

greater engagement within

pop up grad life centers

bridges across campus

partner collaborating

research

of by and about

inclusion advocating

advocate
a space and place for graduate education