

**Annual Progress Report of the Graduate School
2007-2008**

**submitted by
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Preface

My Five Year Review was begun during the Fall '07 and was successfully completed in early spring '08. Thus, this annual activity report will use the report as the foundation and provide additional material. My personal statement is attached to this report.

Progress on major goals for '07-'08

The major goals articulated in the '07-'08 annual review of the Graduate School were as follows:

- Continue to enhance TGE initiatives
- Continue to strengthen graduate community and GLC
- Review and revise administrative structure and functionality in NCR & NVC
- Enhance diversity initiatives (e.g., Graduate Student Diversity Initiatives)
- Increase efforts for quality graduate education (e.g., mentoring, RCR, ethics)
- Renew and expand graduate program reviews
- Continue to build interdisciplinarity (e.g., IGERT and others)

Significant progress has been made on all goals. Significant progress was presented in the 5 year review document and process and I've only provided a brief summary below.

Transformative Graduate Education (TGE)

During '07-'08, we offered the following graduate courses:

- GRAD 5104 (3) Preparing the Future Professoriate (Fall '06, Spring '07) including a section in the spring available to students in the National Capital Region (taught by DePauw),
- GRAD 5114 (3) Pedagogical Practices in Contemporary Contexts (3 sections Fall '07, 1 section Spring '06) (taught by Fowler)
- GRAD 5204 (3) Citizen Scholar Seminar (Spring '07) (taught by DePauw),
- GRAD 5124 (2) Information Literacy (Fall '06 & Spring '07)(taught by Library staff),
- GRAD 5984 (3) (5304) Preparing the Future Career Professional (PRPro, Fall '06) (taught by Mihalik)
- GRAD 5004 (1) GTA Workshop (taught by McNabb)
- GRAD 5974 Independent Study

- GRAD 5954 Study Abroad (May 2007) PFP: Global Perspectives seminar at CESA. The course was taught by K. DePauw with 13 graduate students selected to participate.

This year we continued to offer additional courses in conjunction with IGERT grants and interdisciplinary efforts which we will incorporate into our regular graduate offerings:

- GRAD 5984 (3) Preparing Scientist and Engineers for Industry (taught by R. Turner). This course will become a permanent part of TGE course offerings.
- GRAD 5984 (3) Interdisciplinary Research Training (taught by EIGER IGERT faculty led by G. Filz). This course will also become a permanent course offering with multiple sections. I plan to make this available to teams of faculty who wish to teach interdisciplinary research (e.g., ASPECT)

Annually, over 600 students enroll in these classes with very positive feedback and significant student credit hours generated. Approximately 10-12 students per year will earn the graduate certificate in the Future Professoriate. Some of the GRAD courses are required for graduate certificates in academic departments (e.g., Eng Ed, English) and others have incorporated GRAD courses into their degree programs (e.g., Counselor Ed, ISE)

Graduate Life Center

This year marks the completion of three years of programs and events in the GLC and the second academic year operations of the GLC. This included activities/events including regularly scheduled events such as speakers' series, Graduate Scholars Society, career services, library classes on Info Literacy, Coordinators, graduate courses (TGE and ITA training), GTA workshop, Graduate Education Week, new student orientations & picnics, receptions, Distinguished Lecture series, photo contests, and much more. In addition, the Student Services office handled the reservations for the GLC rooms and space except the auditorium and multi-purpose room. We have added the GLC fellows program who organize and provide programs under the supervision of Monika Gibson, GSSO.

Given the uniqueness of the Graduate Life Center, we continue to be invited to talk about the GLC and consult (non paid) with colleagues around the nation about the GLC. We received numerous hits on the website and I hear from colleagues about their desire to follow our lead.

Progress continues to be made to match the funding from the Class of '59 to contribute to the GLC plaza & amphitheatre and Cobblestone Café between the GLC and the Library. We submitted a request from the parents' fund. The class of '09 of which I am the class sponsor is also interested in contributing.

Review and revise administrative structure and functionality in NCR & NVC

- Worked closely with Interim Associate Dean for NCR David Trauger in the preparation of a report on the structure and function of NVC
- Continued discussions on three semester approach for graduate education in NCR

- Recommendations will be forthcoming and implemented throughout the upcoming year

Enhance diversity initiatives (e.g., Graduate Student Diversity Initiatives)

Many of the accomplishments include efforts demonstrating our strong commitment to diversity so only a few are highlighted here:

- Supported financially summer research assistantship with CLAHS
- Participant in annual Diversity Summits
- Continued support and participation with graduate students from HBCUs titled HBCU Connect
- Emerging Leaders Workshop support and presenter
- Continued Office of Graduate Student Diversity Initiatives
- Supported recruitment and retention of students of color with funding
- Incorporated diversity throughout the TGE graduate courses taught
- Mentored and advised individuals of diverse backgrounds
- Supported financially and participated in Hispanic commencement
- Workforce demographic profile of the Graduate School:
43 total employees includes 35 females, 7 African Americans, 1 Asian American, & 2 Hispanic. Staff also includes one wheelchair user.
- Frequently advise and provide support for graduate students, especially women and students of color.

Increase efforts for quality graduate education (e.g., mentoring, RCR, ethics)

- Established the Office of Graduate Student Ombudsperson; full report is forthcoming and will be presented to the Commission on Graduate Studies & Policy in the fall
- The GSSO and Ombudsperson office held workshops and events on mentoring, ethics and developed a website

Renew and expand graduate program reviews (academic program review office with David Ford)

- Revised Academic Program Review process and guidelines and updated documents for distribution
- Compiled complete listing of all undergraduate and graduate programs
- Met with each College dean and associate dean to review list of academic programs, discuss APR procedures and finalize timeline for 7-year APR cycle
- Provided administrative feedback to departments, as necessary, regarding APR practices
- Compiled APR schedule for all academic programs over next 6 years
- Developed criteria for evaluating departmental reports to assess compliance with APR guidelines and make recommendations to the Vice-Presidents and Provost regarding outcomes and actions
- Completed 2 APR's
- Developed APR webpage

Continue to build interdisciplinarity (e.g., IGERT and others)

- Continued as “facilitator” for the NSF funded IGERT programs at VT.
- Served on advisory committee for EIGER IGERT grant, co-PI on MACRO, and requested to serve on advisory committee for IGERT proposals.
- Assisted with MRSEC grant reverse site visit.
- Helped plan the upcoming Interdisciplinary summit on August 11.

Additional administrative and professional accomplishments

In addition to the information provided above, the following list includes a selection of the numerous activities and accomplishments of the Graduate School during '07-'08; only the major additions are presented:

- Assumed leadership responsibility for academic programs for IALR on an interim basis; workload amounted to half day/week August through May with no compensation.
- Assumed some responsibility for Post docs at VT as part of the “institutionalization of Advance grant along with continued efforts for graduate students
- Institutional Plan for Graduate Degrees (IPGD) was updated annually reflecting institutional priorities. Worked with new degree proposals.
- Enhanced university-wide graduate education (VT: National Capitol Region and Commonwealth campuses) education in Northern VA; increased operations of GSSO in NCR
- Continued Distinguished Lecture Series and third Lecture given by Mary Catherine Bateson
- Continued annual Graduate Alumni Homecoming in September 2007 attended by 100+ alumni.
- Continued Development Efforts for the Graduate School as much as possible without a director of development in place for the year.
- Continued solid working relationship with the Commission for Graduate Studies & Policies (CGS&P) - GSC&P as governance body and “advisory” to the Dean of the Graduate School. Facilitated a first ever joint meeting of the undergraduate commission and the graduate commission to discuss common issues and concerns
- Continued very positive collaborations with Graduate Student Association (GSA). Served as Advisor to GSA. Met regularly with the Executive Committee, attend all Assembly meetings and interact frequently with GSA members. Assisted with the transition from current officers to new officers. Facilitated leadership workshop for executive committee.
- Established a solid working relationship with the Graduate Student Representative to the BOV. Met regularly with Brennan Shepherd. Provided a budget for the Grad Rep (\$1000) and access to Graduate School website for BoV graduate rep web page.
- Worked with *AdvanceVT* activities regarding graduate students/pipeline, policy, post docs, and served on the Executive Committee

- Worked with International Office regarding new proposals for International Partnerships
- Professional commitments:
 - Facilitator (chair) for Virginia Council of Graduate Schools (VCGS); helped organize the third annual VCGS Graduate Student Research exhibition in Richmond.
 - President of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools
 - Chair elect of the Board of Directors, Council of Graduate Schools
 - Invited speaker for CGS and CSGS

Scorecard data:

- Implemented third year of PhD2010 initiative; increased PhD student enrollments beyond the goal 999 by 2010
- Number of doctoral degrees earned increased to 365 (NSF data)
- Enrollment data included the following (Fall '07):
 - Total enrollment 6496
 - Doctoral students 3791
 - Master's students 2705
 - Minority enrollment 860

Goals for '08-'09

- Continue to enhance and expand TGE initiative; continue to strengthen graduate community and GLC
- Finalize recommendations for administrative structure and functionality in NCR & NVC
- Enhance office of Graduate Student Diversity Initiatives; prepare VT to become a destination for graduate students of diverse backgrounds
- Focus efforts on mentoring and ethics
- Establish an action agenda for interdisciplinary graduate education at Virginia Tech
- Challenge the Graduate School staff to become an office that serves the 21st century learner