

**Annual Update
2008-2009**

**submitted by
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Major 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

Progress was made on these goals as well as goals set by individual directors and managers in the Graduate School. In addition, we worked through some personnel challenges and staffing changes, explored and implemented new technologies in support of our operations, enhanced and expanded international collaborations and initiatives, and addressed budget reductions as well as possible. The murder in the GLC was handled with great care and has provided knowledge and wisdom to further enhance a strong graduate community.

Transformative Graduate Education (TGE)

During '08-'09, we continued to offer the following graduate courses:

- GRAD 5104 (3) Preparing the Future Professoriate (Fall '08, Spring '09) 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 (2 sections Fall '08, 1 section Spring '09) (taught by Fowler)
- GRAD 5204 (3) Citizen Scholar Seminar (Spring '09) (taught by DePauw),
- GRAD 5124 (2) Information Literacy (Fall '08 & Spring '09) (taught by Library staff), available as online course which different sections for selected disciplines
- GRAD 5304 (3) Preparing the Future Career Professional (PRPro, Spring '09) (taught by Mihalik)
- GRAD 5004 (1) GTA Workshop (taught by McNabb)

- GRAD 5974 Independent Study
- GRAD 5984 (3) Advanced Pedagogical Practices (Spring '09) taught by Fowler
- GRAD 5954 Study Abroad (May 2009) PFP: Global Perspectives seminar at CESA. The course was taught by K. DePauw with 13 graduate students selected to participate. This was the 4th successful global perspectives seminar.

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. Courses were submitted through the governance process to begin permanent graduate courses:

- GRAD 5314 (3) Preparing Scientist and Engineers for Industry (taught by R. Turner). This course will become a permanent part of TGE course offerings.
- GRAD 5134 (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. Course sections were offered for graduate students in social science and humanities but were cancelled due to low enrollment. We will continue requesting course proposals in various disciplines.

Annually, nearly 1000 students enroll in these classes with very positive feedback and significant student credit hours generated. Approximately 10-12 students per year 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 4th year of successful programs and events in the GLC and the third 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 workshops, graduate courses (TGE and ITA training), GTA workshop, Graduate Education Week, new student orientations, social gatherings & receptions, Distinguished Lecture series, photo contests, and much more. In the spring, we added counseling services to the weekly offerings in the GLC. 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. During the year, we finalized the funding for the GLC Plaza and Amphitheater with gifts from the Class of '59, Parents Fund, and the Class of 2009. Plans for finalized and the opening will occur in Fall '09. Developed the Paver Project in which we will provide the rich history and story of graduate education at VT to unfold.

Review and revise administrative structure and functionality in NCR & NVC

- Received report from Interim Associate Dean for NCR David Trauger on the structure and function of NVC and graduate education in the NCR
- Ongoing efforts - finalized space allocation process, continued discussions on three semester approach for graduate education in NCR, supported interdisciplinary collaboration in the region, joined discussions on housing for graduate students in the region
- Combined the positions of Associate Dean and Director of the NVC into one effective July 1, 2009.
- Addressed concerns and challenges in operations between NCR and Blacksburg

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:

- Active participant in annual Diversity and Inclusion events and programs
- Continued support and participation with graduate students from HBCUs titled HBCU Connect
- Emerging Leaders Workshop support and presenter
- Hired Dr. Manuel Perez-Quinones as Associate Dean and Director for the 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
- Gave welcoming remarks for the Hispanic commencement and participated in the first Lavender Graduation for LGTB students.
- Continue to value and employ a diverse staff in the Graduate School;
Employees includes 35 females, 3 African Americans, 1 Asian American, & 3 Hispanic. Staff also includes one wheelchair user.
- Provided support for gatherings of groups of 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; completed the 2-year pilot and made the office a permanent part of the Graduate School
- The GSSO and Ombudsperson office held workshops and events on mentoring, ethics and developed a website
- Began collaborations with faculty through funded grants on ethics

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 multiple IGERT proposals.
- Facilitated the Interdisciplinary summit and generated report and recommendations; initiated work on recommendations.

Serving the 21st century learner

- Facilitated individual and group discussions about operating principles for Graduate School
- Attempted to address unit level issues and dysfunctions
- Began process of improving operations and functionality in Blacksburg
- Reviewed and updated Graduate School policies and procedures (e.g., 4000 level courses and conjoint, bachelor's/master's)
- Created first version of new interactive on line Graduate Catalog
- Analyzed possibilities for enhanced use of technology in support of graduate education

Ongoing and additional administrative responsibilities

Ongoing administrative responsibilities include the following:

- Facilitating the program for Post Docs at VT; hosting website
- 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
- Continued Distinguished Lecture Series and fourth Lecture given by David Whyte
- Continued annual Graduate Alumni Homecoming in September 2008 attended by 100+ alumni.
- Continued positive 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 the second annual 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 Linsey Barker and provided access to Graduate School website for BoV graduate rep web page.
- Ongoing daily activities and operations of the Graduate school

Additional activities and efforts are commonplace in the Graduate School and include the following as examples (not an exhaustive list):

- Continue to serve on several committees for upcoming SACS visit and worked closely in preparation of documentation
- Continued efforts regarding the National Research Council Assessment of Doctoral Study

- Continued efforts for Academic Analytics and VT's participation
- Continued efforts in Academic Program Review; worked with Dr. Ford and now, Dr. Wubah
- Increased international collaborations with partner universities (with Dooley)
- Expanded international opportunities for graduate students - Global perspectives graduate course and summer employment as instructors at Kuwait University (only available to VT graduate students).
- Continued to address fiscal challenges regarding the underfunding of PhD2010 program
- Initiated Public relations effort for Graduate School
- Hired Director of Development to re-invigorate development effort
- Provided input into budget cuts and additional sources of income in support of graduate education

Selection professional responsibilities (DePauw's contributions)

In addition to the daily responsibilities as VP and Dean, I have accepted external professional responsibilities and regularly participate in professional and scholarly conferences including publication. These include:

- Active participant and past chair for Virginia Council of Graduate Schools (VCGS); helped organize the fourth annual VCGS Graduate Student Research exhibition in Richmond
- Past President of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS) and active participant in conference planning
- Assumed the position of Chair of the Board of Directors, Council of Graduate Schools in December '08
- Invited speaker for CSGS conference in February '09 in Norfolk
- Invited speaker for CGS '08 summer workshop and new deans' institute and the CSG '08 Annual meeting; multiple presentations and responsibilities
- Invited participant and speaker for global summit on graduate education held in Florence, Italy October '08
- Articles in two publications by CGS on international collaboration and ethics
- Invited speaker for NAFSA conference in May '09; invitation to speak by the European University Association
- Additional professional associations committee work, conference presentations and publication in kinesiology and disability studies/sport – AAKPE, ISAPA, AAHPERD. Three chapters in two books, 2 referred publications, and several presentations at national and international conferences.

Scorecard data:

- Implemented fourth year of PhD2010 initiative; continued to increase PhD student enrollments beyond the goal 900 by 2010; Profile for 2012 has already been achieved – need to revise:
 - 2800 doctoral students (2600)

- 4013 master's students (3900)
- Number of doctoral degrees earned increased to 341 (NSF data)
- Enrollment data included the following (Fall '08):
 - Total enrollment 6813
 - Doctoral students 2800
 - Master's students 4103
- Demographic distribution of enrollment

○ Male	58.8%	4,006
○ Female	41.2%	2,807
○ Native American	.41%	24
○ Hispanic	2.04%	139
○ Asian/Pacific Islander	4.70%	320
○ Black	5.83%	397
○ International	25.7%	1,753
○ Caucasian	61.29%	4,176

Goals for '09-'10

- Continue to enhance and expand TGE initiatives; continue to strengthen graduate community and GLC
- Enhance office of Graduate Student Diversity Initiatives and efforts of inclusion
- Focus efforts on quality graduate education including a positive culture for graduate education; review and revise surveys
- Implement an action agenda for interdisciplinary graduate education at Virginia Tech
- Further enhance global graduate education and graduate students as global citizens
- Implement strategies which better serve the 21st century learner including the increased use of technology in support of graduate education
- Assemble a new administrative team and work to enhance functionality and streamlined operations throughout the Graduate School
- Implement recommendations for administrative structure and functionality in NCR & NVC in support of quality graduate education in the region