

2016 August Interdisciplinary Graduate Education Report- prepared by Amy Pruden,
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14 IGEPs continue to run strong, building interdisciplinary capacity at Virginia Tech and serving as a model program for the Destination Areas, with several IGEPs specifically affiliating with the Destination Areas that are now in the design phase. As of Fall 2016, >250 faculty are affiliated with IGEPs and 303 VT grad students are enrolled in one of the 14 IGEP programs. In the 2015-2016 academic year, >700 peer-reviewed papers were published and ~\$200M in grants affiliated with IGEPs were active. The individualized interdisciplinary PhD (IPhD) program took root this year, with the first four students admitted into the program and several others in the pipeline preparing their applications for the coming year. We completed the initial third year review of the third and final cohort of IGEPs (Interfaces of Global Change, Human Centered Design, Bioinspired Buildings, and Disaster Resilience), with the four inaugural IGEPs (Water INTERface, Sustainable Nanotechnology, Biological Transport, and Translational Plant Sciences) having their second third year review in summer 2017. We have hosted two reception events for IGEP faculty and students per year and sponsored other interdisciplinary events on campus. In the coming year we expect to increase the number of IPhD students and support the Destination Area design process, potentially expanding the number of affiliated IGEPs.