

Annual Report of the Graduate School 2011-2012—Summary

In 2011-2012, the Graduate School:

- Offered 139 events, workshops, and seminars through its Preparing Future Leaders program, with a total attendance of 3,044: 2,567 graduate students, 432 postdoctoral scholars, and 45 other participants.
- Established 4 new Professional Science Master's programs, 3 at NC State and 1 at UNC Charlotte, while an additional 2 programs at NC State are in the process of being approved.
- Improved the standing of its postdoc program, as indicated by the inclusion of NC State for the first time among the top 30 universities for postdocs by *The Scientist*, which noted especially the family and personal life and equity of the university.
- Completed development and implementation of 4 new programs: Biomanufacturing (MS, MR), Electric Power Systems Engineering (MR), Climate Change and Society (MR), and 2 graduate certificates: City Design and Energy, and Technology in Architecture.
- Approved agreements for Cooperative Education Training in Veterinary Epidemiology with UNC-Chapel Hill, the dual-degree Master of Global innovation and Management with a concentration in Global Luxury Management with SKEMA Business School, and the FEEDM Systems Center Cooperative Agreement for Distance Access of Courses.
- Processed about 14,300 applications, an increase of nearly 4% over last year, and managed the process of dispersing approximately \$4 million in 26 different fellowship/grant programs for 417 graduate students, including 101 University Graduate Fellowships.
- Managed the external reviews of 8 programs and conducted post-review meetings for 11 programs. Outcomes assessment of graduate programs continued, with 26 programs submitting biennial reports.
- Participated in the third annual Graduate Education Week on March 18-24, including the annual student research symposium, seminars and workshops, the "Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant" awards celebration, a service project for Habitat for Humanity, and recreational opportunities.
- Moved to an essentially paperless office, digitally automated the former paper patent agreement required for all graduate students, innovated new ways to control cost and better manage shrinking resources, implemented new health insurance requirements by overseeing the move to hard-wavier insurance requirements, and integrated the GradWatch student system into the graduate admissions system.
- Advanced diversity of underrepresented minorities through visitation programs for 68 students, extended or renewed major grants from NSF and NIH, hosted 708 students for this year's OPT-ED Alliance day.

**Recommendations for the future** include a Center for Graduate Student Success and the improvement of mentoring of graduate students.

**Concerns for the future** include inadequate financial support for strategically growing graduate enrollment, the university's inability to attract the best students due to a lack of fellowships, a procedure for academic planning and program priorities, and new space for the Graduate School.