PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS IN GRADUATE EDUCATION

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CGS 2012 ANNUAL MEETINGS
Looking Backwards Moving Forward

- Professional skills under the apprenticeship model of graduate education
- Changes in modes of research—networked, complex, and interdisciplinary
- Career trajectories of graduate students
- 21st century professional skill development in graduate programs and in graduate school
A snapshot of the student perspective

- Findings from 2012 survey on Professional Development across our AS&E graduate program

- Gauge how effective we are in preparing our students to succeed professionally
- Identify areas of success and areas that need improvement

- Total Responses: 160 Master’s students; 116 Doctoral students

- Findings (based on responses “Strongly Agree” or “Agree” to questions posed in survey)
Keeping up with current advances in my field

Enhancing my skills in becoming an expert in my field.
Knowing the latest research techniques

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<tr>
<td>Doctoral Students</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<td>M.A./M.S. Students</td>
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Presenting research to an audience of peers

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M.A./M.S. Students

Writing papers for publication
Collaborating with other researchers

- Doctoral Students
- M.A./M.S. Students

Understanding the principles of ethical conduct of research

- Doctoral Students
- M.A./M.S. Students
Understanding how an academic organization works

Facilitating interdisciplinary interactions
Leading a team

Doctoral Students
M.A./M.S. Students

Negotiating with people in a position of authority

Doctoral Students
M.A./M.S. Students
Writing Grant proposals

Doctoral Students
M.A./M.S. Students

Managing a research group or laboratory

Doctoral Students
M.A./M.S. Students
Transferable Skill Set

- Writing papers for publication
- Teaching
- Oral Communication
- Written Communication
- Presentation
- Team-work
- Supervising others
- Collaboration with interdisciplinary peers
- Writing grant proposals
- Negotiating with people in authority
- Leading a team
- Training others
- Problem-solving
- Providing feedback and critique

- Facilitating discussion-groups and meetings
- Experience in working with diverse groups
- Ethics and professional conduct
- Adaptability to grasp new technologies
- Time management skills
- Adaptability to change
- Ability to learn fast new things
- Ability to take risks
- Ability to innovate
- Managing a budget
- Resilience
- Ability to meet deadlines
Survey of Graduate Deans in Pathway Report

- [http://www.pathwaysreport.org/rsc/pdf/survey_graduate_deans.pdf](http://www.pathwaysreport.org/rsc/pdf/survey_graduate_deans.pdf)
- 6C: How effective are professional development/skills workshops in promoting career development among graduate students at your university?
- 52% (110) indicating that they were somewhat effective and 42% (89) very effective, and 2% not effective
Workshop Participants Top Choices:

- Communication, both oral and written (#1)
- Ethics and professional conduct (#2)
- Time management skills (#3)
- Team-work (#3)
- Experience in working with diverse groups (#4)
- Resilience (#4)

#1 in every group’s top pick