The Future is Now:  
Professional Development in Today’s Graduate Environment

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Dean of the Graduate School  
Vice Provost for Graduate Education

Stony Brook University  
• Founded 1957  
• 56 Doctoral Progs  
• 126 Master’s Progs  
• 8,200 grad students  
• AAU member  
• Brookhaven NL  
• Rapid Expansion

Professional Development for Grad Students

Ultimate Goals  
• Competency  
• Efficiency  
• Innovation

Proximate Goals  
• Awareness  
• Preparation  
• Success

Enhancing Awareness

• Career options  
• Market trends  
• Necessary credentials  
• Success strategies  
• Comparative advantages  
• Limitations
Preparation
• Communication skills
• Teaching skills
• Management skills
• Technical skills
• Mentoring
• Language and cultural competencies
• Professional ethics

Success
• Time management
• Stress management
• Thesis/dissertation help
• Financial competency
• Holistic health
• Community
  • Social benefits
  • Scholarly benefits

Basic Principles
• Data based evaluation and planning
• Pilot with subgroups of students
• Focus resources for greatest return
• Coordinate through IREP

Professional Development at Stony Brook
• Professional development, mentoring, and advising traditionally left to graduate programs
• Career Center focused on undergrads
• Center for Inclusive Education does a great job with URM students (AGEPT-T, IRACDA, LSAMP)
• PSM Programs in Physics and Chemistry
• Many new initiatives
Enhancing Awareness
- External speakers
- Workshops
- SB Graduate Career Association
- WCUB at NYU
- Communication and Outreach
- IDPs
- Blog and Social Media

Preparation
- Program Evaluations
- Communicating Science
- Provost’s Lecture Series
- Accountabila-Buddy
- Writing to Win
- Professional Certificates
- Entrepreneurship
- Interdisciplinary Clusters

Success and Community
- Building Graduate Communities
- Life science innovations (NAGS-ETS Award)
- Keeping It Real
- Celebrate With Us Socials