Directors of Graduate Studies

November 7, 2018
John Keller, PhD
Dean, Graduate College
Associate Provost for Graduate Education
Agenda

• Welcome and Graduate College updates
• Graduate Student Success
  • Water Sustainability
  • Humanities for the Public Good
• Call for proposals – new challenge grant
Graduate Student Success

Goal: Provide a transformative educational experience that educates all UI students to be engaged citizens.

- Invest in **high-impact practices** (HIPs) that promote critical thinking, problem solving, discipline-based knowledge, analysis, creativity, synthesis, and perspective taking.
- Embed more **career-readiness**, alumni engagement and mentoring, and capstone courses within majors.
- Promote academic and co-curricular experiences that **develop citizenship**, including responsibilities to society and to the environment.

[https://provost.uiowa.edu/strategic-plan-2016-2021-student-success](https://provost.uiowa.edu/strategic-plan-2016-2021-student-success)
Goal: Provide a transformative educational experience that educates all UI students to be engaged citizens.

- Expand flexible models of sustained student funding for research, teaching, and professional development.
- Ensure that graduate and professional students interested in academic careers have sufficient competence in grant writing, teaching, and publishing or artistic production to be competitive.
- Minimize barriers to enrollment in interdisciplinary, cross-listed courses.

https://provost.uiowa.edu/strategic-plan-2016-2021-student-success
Graduate Education Success Over Time

- Changing financial models
- Decreased median time to degree (mTTD)
- Increased percent completion
Next Challenge

- Professional development in the Knowledge Economy
- Translate research and scholarship for public good
- Boost skills and expertise
PhD Placement Data
Student Comments

career development could be introduced during orientation

More realistic information about how many students end up in tenure-track positions.

there should be a more concentrated effort … to educate students on other career paths.
Student Comments

...make educational requirements relevant for both academic and industry student futures.

More integrated training and information about alternate careers throughout graduate training, not just workshops/speakers.
Broaden preparation of PhD Students

• Intellectual **AND** Professional
• Transformative
• Integrative **NOT** Additive
Degree requirements made more flexible, use courses from other departments.

A lesson in management of people would be beneficial.

more required check-ins

More cross-college networking/collaboration
Sustainable Water Development Graduate Program

David Cwiertny
Director of Graduate Studies
Civil & Environmental Engineering

NRT-INFEWS: Paths to sustainable food-energy-water (FEW) systems in resource-limited communities (DGE 1633098)

PI Team: Cwiertny, Scherer, Just, Tate & Villarini
Teresa Mangum
Director
Obermann Center

"Humanities for the Public Good" Launch

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 - 4:30pm to 5:30pm

Iowa City Public Library
Challenge Grant Goals

Preparing our graduate students better for the knowledge economy, global challenges, and broader career placement options.
Looking for Proposal Inspiration?

- Interdisciplinary proposals are highly encouraged
- Open to novel approaches not mentioned
- Curricular changes
- Innovative degree and/or certificate program
- Professional development training
- Experiential learning opportunities
- Innovation in research/thesis/dissertation requirements
Anticipated Timeline

Phase I – Concept Proposals (due Jan 15)

Notification to proposers (by Feb 1)

Phase II – Invited Proposals (due Mar 15)

Final Proposal Selection (by Apr 7)

Award Period
May 2019 thru June 2020
Phase 1 Proposal Requirements

✓ Two page limit

✓ A description of the significance of the idea, the graduate student population(s)/programs involved, and potential student impact.

✓ A description of the proposed innovation(s) with a strong justification for the approach.

✓ A budget and budget justification (subject to change in phase 2).