Graduate Student Association

The graduate student association is intended to help you in your academic pursuits through collegiality, opportunity, and resource availability. While many folks know about the academic research symposia and the poster sessions that we do in our department, many still do not know about our connection with the University Graduate Student Association.

$250 in travel funds are available to every student that presents at a conference, and $50 is available to every student for those costs that add up when you produce multiple copies of your final thesis or dissertation.

Additionally, your collective voice is brought to the university around important issues like parking, fees, libraries, academic requirements, campus life and other issues. If you would like to be a part of the AET&D GSA or the UGSA next year, check out the back page of this newsletter for a list of opportunities to serve, learn, and gain valuable experience that also looks great on a resume!

Celebrate with the graduates!!

Completion of a degree is a major milestone! We laughed with Dr. Jane Bozart at the ceremony this year when she told us about her T-shirt that reads: “Graduation is for quitters!” Way-to-go everyone:

December 2008 Graduates: Patricia Godin, Shanna Coles, Cathy Godwin, Rashida Ross, Mellinda Hansen-Holloway, Kathryn Alden, Jane Bozarth, Stephen Garcia, Kathy Lohr

The May 2009 Graduates are listed on page 4.
Celebration at presentation of awards at the Poster Session.

Developing scholars, increasing collegiality, building community.

2009 Poster Session

Dissertation Research Category:
Maura Murphy - 1st place
Contingent Faculty: What impacts their organizational commitment?

Adult Education and Training & Development Category
Amy Orders, Shari Wicker, & Tara Bass - 1st place
Reflective Practice in Medical Education
Rhonda Welfare - 2nd place
An exploration of lateral entry career and technical education teachers’ first year professional development experiences.
Barbara Metelsky & Hassel Morrison - 3rd place
Multiculturally competent program planning: “Planning the face of power.”

Higher Education Administration, Educational Leadership, Education Research & Policy Analysis, Adult and Continuing Professional Education Category:
Toni Cerbo - 1st place
Negotiating Identity: Voices from Female Muslim College Students in the Southeastern U.S.
Kimberly Harris - 2nd place
Determining the Relationship between Study Abroad and Graduation Rates
Heather Campbell - 3rd place
Understanding leadership development experiences of women college presidents who attended women’s colleges.

Advisor shares experience and perspective

Dr. Bracken came to NCSU from Penn State University in 2004, and has brought great perspective on what a Graduate Student Association can be. Dr. Bracken was a key influence in getting this group started, and the effectiveness increases each year. As the AET&D Graduate Student Association builds its own track record of service, collegiality, and resources, it is important to see how the organization can continue to grow. One area that Dr. Bracken says is still open for development is a stronger connection with alumni. This connection can benefit the students who are currently enrolled, drawing on real world scenarios. Alumni connections also benefit students after they have graduated - with job searches, opportunities, research and of course, friendships! As this area gets stronger, keep in mind how you might help the GSA extend its impact.
It takes a village…

A year ago, in a desperate attempt to generate some forward momentum in the dissertation process, I went to the AHE Graduate Student Poster Symposium. I don’t remember a lot of specifics about the symposium, but at least I had a general idea of what to expect this year. In my imagination, the 2009 symposium would include some number of students who had wonderful, professional-looking posters accompanied by perfect presentations about their nearly completed dissertations.

And me.

There is no way I would have participated in the symposium had it not been a requirement for my Advanced Qualitative class. I was consumed with panic early in the semester when I looked at the course syllabus and realized I had to turn in a proposal for the poster by early in March. At the beginning of this semester I was scarcely farther along in the process than a year ago when I attended the symposium as a spectator. Completing a poster, much less winning an award, seemed impossible.

But a lot can happen in a few months. I think the main thing that happened is that I quit trying to solve the dissertation problem by myself. First, a friend listening to me whine about my inability to settle on a topic made a suggestion that actually linked together related threads of several of the ideas I’d considered. I talked to a colleague at work who suggested some additional resources that got me thinking in a new way. I talked to a professor, who gave me positive feedback about the idea. I batted ideas around with the other students in my Advanced Qualitative class. Finally, I worked up enough nerve to email a note to my adviser and got a reply with the sweetest words ever heard: “I like where you are going with this.”

The poster itself was challenging, but even making it was a learning experience. It helped me think through some of my ideas and get things written down on paper. It exposed some weak areas where I needed to focus energy. Talking to people who came by during the session gave me a chance to “polish” my presentation. And nearly every person who stopped to talk shared a thought, a contact, a reference, or an idea to pursue. I do not believe I was that helpful to the symposium participants I talked with last year.

I really believe participating in the poster session played a big part in my progress this semester. Although I’ve certainly got a long way to go with the dissertation, I’ve already started to think about the acknowledgments. The list of people to thank for their help may end up being longer than the rest of the document!

“Faculty support is appreciated!”
May 2009 Graduates!

Doctor of Education

Adult & Community College Education

Nancy H. Fire
Ti’eshia M. Moore
David William Prafska
Steven Mitchell Price
Lorene Todd Putnam

Higher Education Administration

Maura Jean Murphy
Ashley Mouberry Sieman

Master of Education

Adult & Community College Education

Laura Marie Kalbaugh
Matthew James Lawson
Shaun Michael Marsh
Abby Louise Stillings

Higher Education Administration

Anne Elizabeth Aichele
Kathryn Brooke Ashley
Cristopher J. Barns
Michael Gary Bumbry
Justin Aaron Clapp
Kimberly E. Franklin
Megan Aisling Horan
Justin Brian Inscoe
Samara Lieber Kuhn
Jeffrey C. Lail
Brianna Marie Lombardozzi
Steven Raymond Myszak
Mary Elizabeth Seay
Casey Owen Shadix
Clair L. Shields
Helena Maggie Thomas
Rachel Dickens White
Shariva Deoris Hope White

Training & Development

Michael Anthony Campagna
Toumnakone Hester
Paul Brian Kaufman
Andrew Joseph Krajewski
Dinetta Patrice Richardson
Rebekah Susan Roehrs
Brittany Erin Ronco
Paige Layno Winn
Teacher: Clyde, your composition on ‘My Dog’ is exactly the same as your brother’s. Did you copy his?
Clyde: No ma’am, it’s the same dog.

A police recruit was asked during the exam, “What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?” He answered, “Call for backup.”

Interested in being an officer for 2009-2010? We will hold elections in September for the following:

President
Vice President
Social Coordinator
Poster session Chairperson
Secretary
Appropriations
Communications (Newsletter, Vista Page, Website, OrgSync)

Organization

Adult Education, Training & Development Grad Student Assoc.
300 H Poe Hall
Campus Box 7801
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC 27695-7801

Tyler Townsend, Pres.
Rob Gierka, Vice Pres.
Dr. Sue Bracken, Advisor
E-mail: tyler_townsend@ncsu.edu

We’re on the Web!
http://clubs.ncsu.edu/ahegsa

Brave Penguin