

September 25, 2012

# Graduate Council

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# Agenda

- I. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting on May 9, 2012
- II. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. New Councilors
  - b. New Graduate School Staff
- III. Major Initiative Reports
  - a. Hobson's Apply Yourself
  - b. Office for Diversity Initiatives
  - c. Office for International Initiatives
- IV. Discussion Topics
  - a. Graduate Writing Initiatives
  - b. Graduate Certificates and Masters Degrees: Program Surveys and GOA Plans

# Welcome and Introductions

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# New Graduate Councilors

- David Tilley
  - *AGNR, Environmental Science and Technology*
- Michelle Rowley
  - *ARHU, Women's Studies*
- Laura Dugan
  - *BSOS, Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- David Inouye
  - *CMNS, Biology*
- Charles Delwiche
  - *CMNS, Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics*
- André Tits
  - *ENGR, Electrical and Computer Engineering*
- David Colon Cabrera
  - *President, Graduate Student Government*
- Lenisa Joseph
  - *EDUC, Special Education*
- Shelby Patricia Cooley
  - *EDUC, Human Development*

# New GS Associate Deans and Staff

- Dr. Alexander Chen: AD for Academic Standards and Policies
- Dr. Mark Shayman: AD for Student Success
- Dr. Robert Steele: Director, Office for Diversity Initiatives
- Dr. Lee Thornton: Ombuds Officer for Graduate Students
- Dr. Michelle Brooks: Coordinator for GRAD PRO
- Katie Brown, Director: GS Information Center
- Kerry Lipitz, Assistant to the Dean, Special Projects
- Dr. Chuan Liu, Senior Faculty Advisor, China
- John McKee, Development Director
- Kim Pedersen: International Intern
- Dr. Arthur Popper, Senior Faculty Advisor STEM Initiatives
- Heather Blain Vorhies: Postdoctoral Associate, Writing Initiatives

# GS Organizational Chart: 2005

2005

The Graduate School

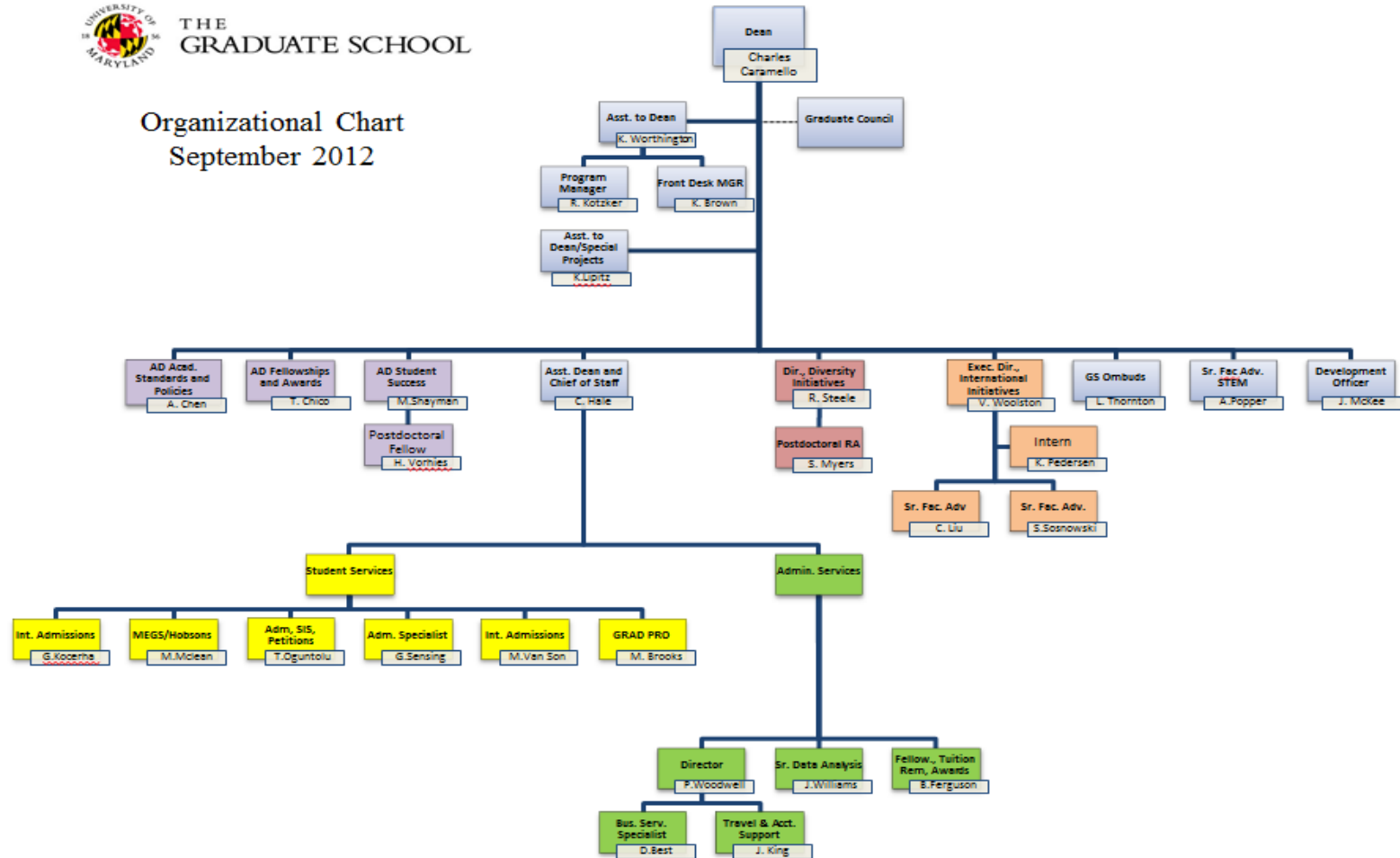
Vacant  
Business Manager

# GS Organizational Chart: 2012



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Organizational Chart  
September 2012

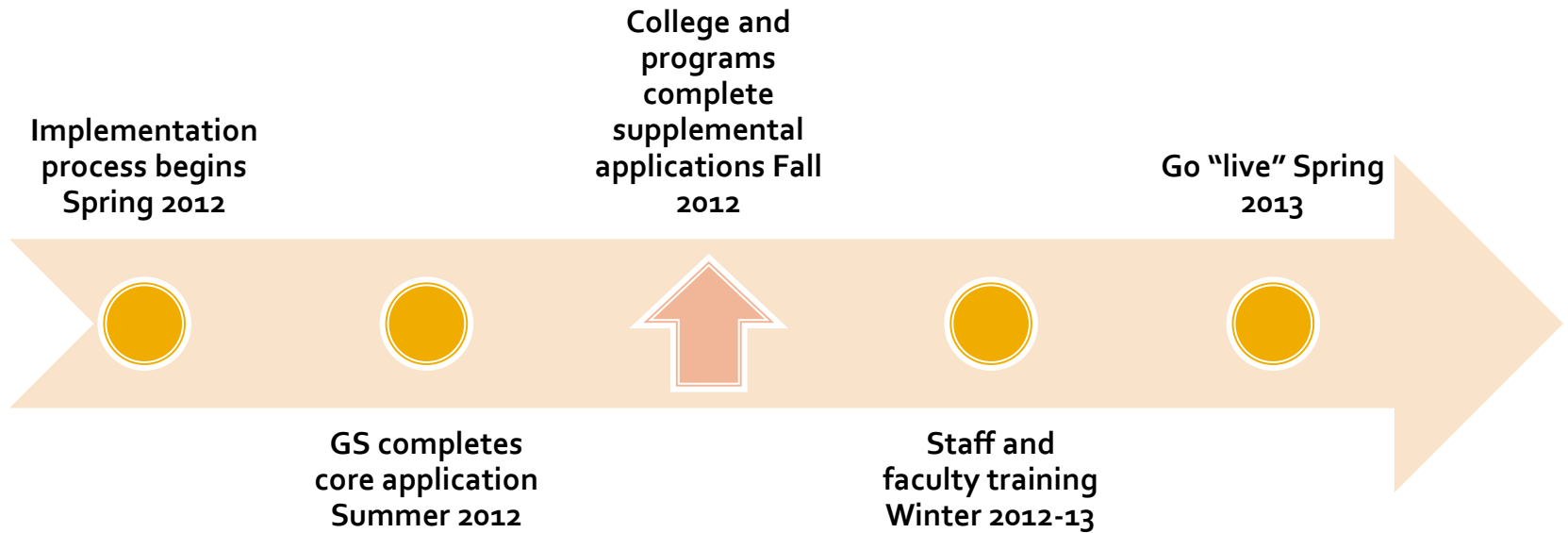


# Major Initiative Reports

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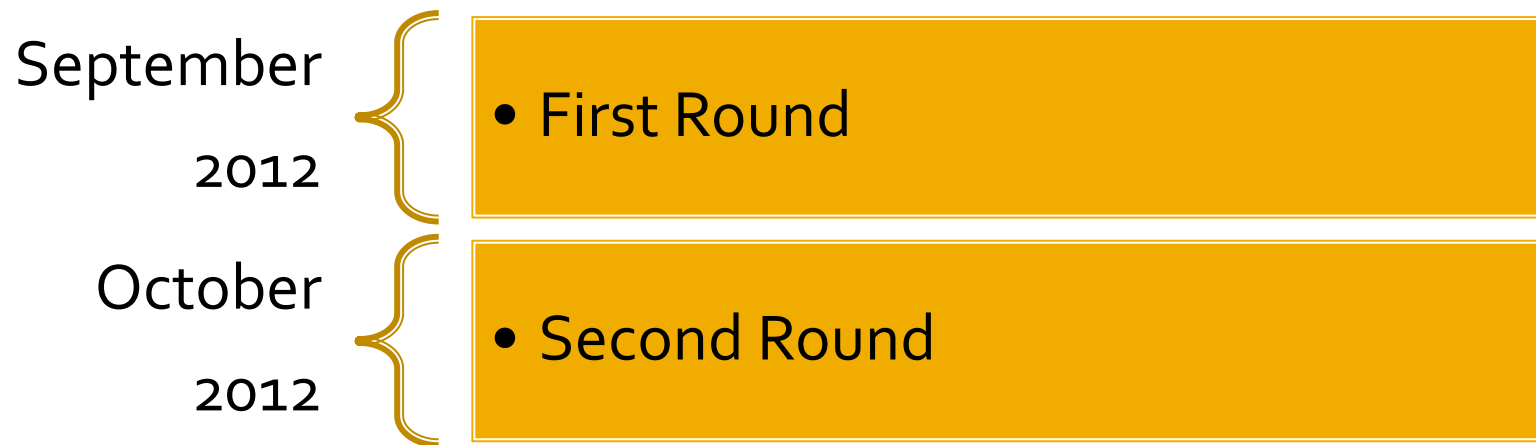


# Hobsons *Apply Yourself* Graduate Admissions System

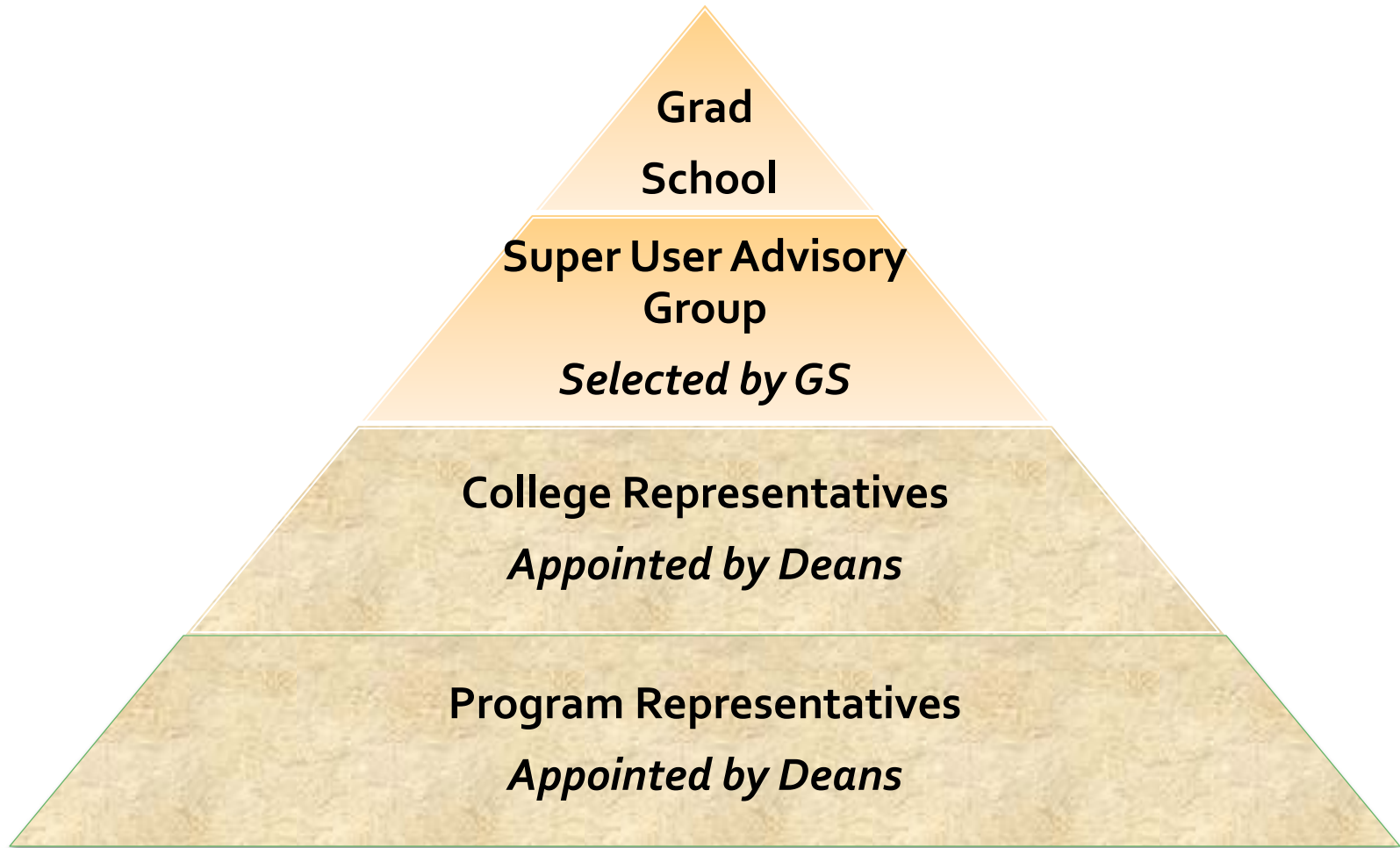


## Implementation Timeline

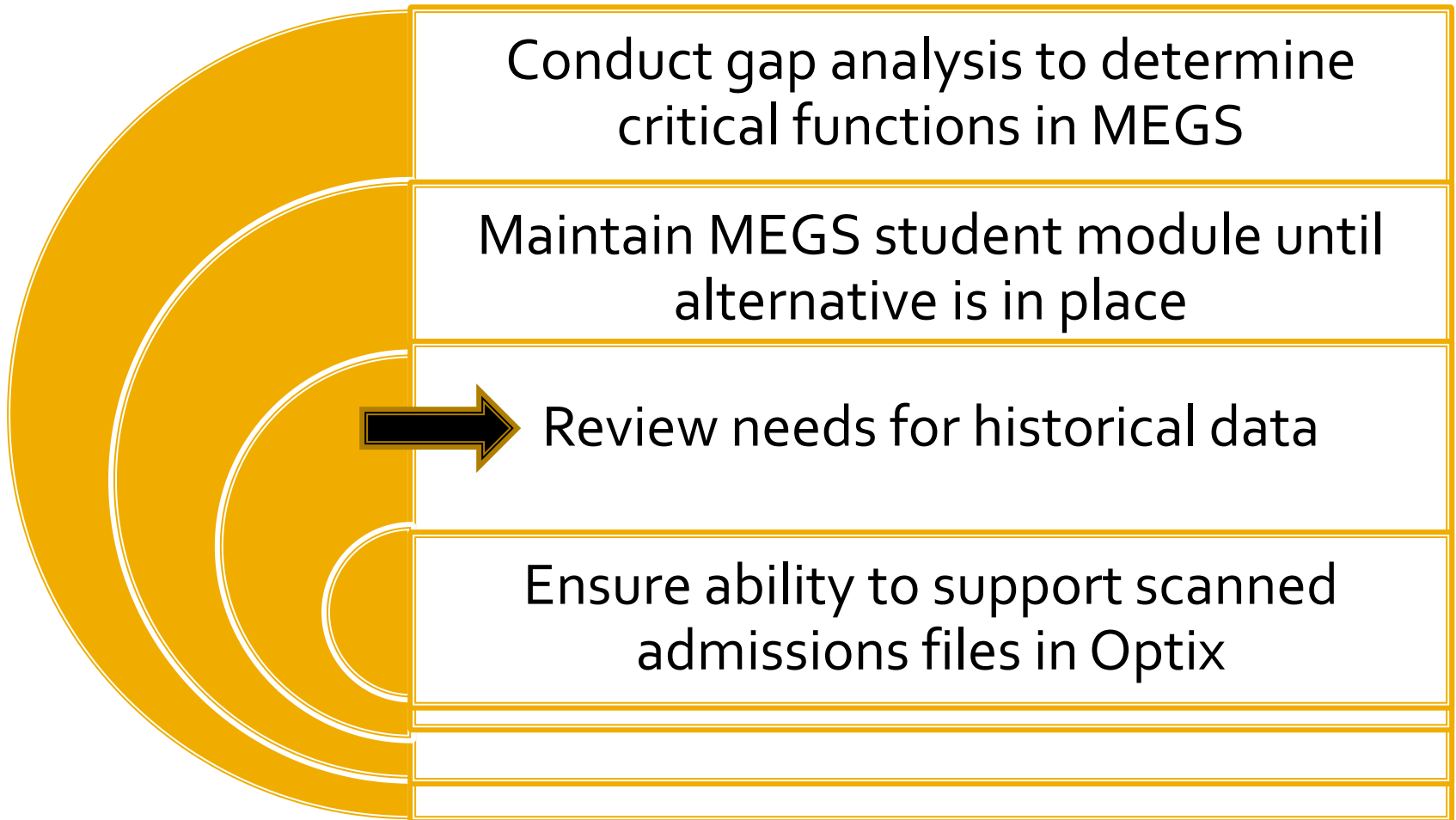
# Creation of Data Catalogs



# Communication Pyramid



# Keys to Transition from MEGS



# Diversity Initiatives

- Office of Diversity Initiatives
  - Advance innovative, data-based, recruitment, retention, and support initiatives targeted to underrepresented minorities;
  - Develop ongoing academic initiatives to encourage campus conversation on diversity in graduate education at UM and beyond.
- GS Diversity Advisory Committee
  - “Blue ribbon” panel of campus faculty and scholars with seniority and expertise.
- Universities at Shady Grove
  - Provide undergraduates at USG with tools to recognize benefits of graduate education, identify appropriate graduate schools and graduate programs, apply for admission and financial support, and succeed once enrolled.
- AGEP: Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate
  - Collaborate with UMBC and UMB on NSF proposal for new iteration of PROMISE grant.

# GS Diversity Committee AY 12

- Chengri Ding, Associate Professor, Architecture, Planning and Preservation
- Colleen M. Farmer, Assistant Dean, School of Public Health
- Marisa Franco, Doctoral Student, Psychology
- Sylvester James Gates, Jr., Professor, Physics
- Sharon Harley, Associate Professor, African American Studies/History
- Patricio Korzeniewicz, Professor, Sociology
- David Mayo, Doctoral Student, Aerospace Engineering
- Heather Nathans, Professor and Associate Director, Theatre
- Siba Samal, Associate Dean and Chair, Veterinary Medicine
- Leon Slaughter, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Saul Sosnowski, Professor, Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures
- Terri Wright, Director, McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program

# International Initiatives

- International Research Fellowships
  - Eight students, two faculty, five colleges: AGNR, ARHU, CMNS, CRIM, ENGR
  - Six locations: Argentina, China, Egypt, Hungary, Israel, Norway
  - \$14,700 in GS funding (representing 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of total funding for students)
- University of Tübingen
  - Collaborative Initiative in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science
  - Other Potential Areas for Collaboration
- University of Maryland China Task Force
  - Task Force Mission and Objectives

# Discussion Topics

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# Graduate Writing Initiatives

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# Task Force on Graduate Writing

- Charge to Task Force
  - Map existing campus initiatives and resources and develop a set of recommendations for expanding and improving them.
  - Recommend a plan that (a) helps graduate students with writing and (b) improves the quality of graduate student writing. The plan should (a) add value to students and programs, (b) be feasible with respect to organization and resources, and (c) remain fully responsive to disciplinary demands and differences.
  
- Specifics
  - Survey, analyze, and map existing campus initiatives.
  - Survey initiatives at peer campuses for best practices and costs.
  - Solicit input and from campus units and organizations, including student groups.
  - Develop a three tier plan for initiatives at campus, college, and program levels.
  
- Task Force Report
  - [http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/faculty\\_staff/Grad\\_Council\\_Uploads/TaskForceReport\\_Graduate\\_Student\\_Writing.pdf](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/faculty_staff/Grad_Council_Uploads/TaskForceReport_Graduate_Student_Writing.pdf)

# Drivers for Writing Initiatives

- Graduate students want programs to assist and improve their writing.
- Graduate faculty want programs to assist and improve student writing.
- Current available programs and help are limited and want enhancement.
- ESL and native speakers are large populations with different needs.
- We should address writing and writing process proactively to *avert* crises.
- Address discipline-independent writing issues, e.g., multiple genres.
- Address discipline-specific writing issues, e.g., rhetoric and vocabulary.
- Address motivation, planning, and time management issues.

# Campus Level

- Planning and Coordination of Coherent Program of Writing Initiatives
- Large Lectures/Workshops on Broad Writing Topics
- Website for Writing Resources and for Interactive Initiatives
- Writing Center for Graduate Students (Facilitated Peer Groups)
- Seed Grants for Colleges and Programs for “Best Practices”

# College and Program Levels

- Colleges

- Lectures/workshops on writing specific to discipline(s)
- Mini writing centers for tutoring on writing specific to discipline(s)

- Programs

- Writing intensive courses / writing assignments in core courses
- Sessions on writing in colloquia for professional development
- Seminar/workshop in writing specific to discipline
- Guide to disciplinary writing
- Peer writing groups

Graduate Certificates and  
Masters Degrees:

*Program Surveys and GOA Plans*

# Program Surveys

- Create taxonomy to facilitate strategic planning and the creation and development of new programs.
- Programs to identify characteristics and define objectives; this is *not* a program review or assessment.
- Programs to complete an online survey for each program code; approximately 20 questions, most closed.
- Collateral benefit: defining objectives will simplify GOA plans
- Tentative timeline: Nov/Dec—survey instrument posted. Jan/Feb—survey returned.

# GOA Plans

- Programs create GOA plans for masters degrees/graduate certificates.
- Campus GOA Committee will develop and implement process.
- GOA Committee will streamline previous doctoral GOA process.
- Masters/certificate GOA plans will differ from doctoral GOA plans.
- Masters/certificate GOA will also be biannual.
- Plans to be developed in AY 12-13 and used for AY 13-14.
- Tentative timeline: TBA, with plans due in Spring semester.



**Thank You!**

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