Professional Development Opportunities for Graduate Students

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OGAPS Goal

• To improve and expand professional development (PD) opportunities for TAMU graduate students:
  ✓ Promote existing opportunities
  ✓ Identify gaps, develop new offerings
Career Center Goal

• To ensure all Aggies find professional success and fulfillment by:
  – Encouraging students to explore ALL career options
  – Helping students determine which path is the best fit for their interests and skills & develop a plan of action
  – Assisting students in each step of the job search and application process
  – Reaffirming students’ autonomy & self-efficacy during this stressful phase in their lives
What is PD?

- Training outside traditional, discipline-based graduate coursework.
- Helps bridge the gap between graduate education and the workforce.
What is PD?

Goals of participating in PD:

• Students learn skills that are transferable.

• Students gain greater awareness of different career paths (thus, increasing confidence and independence).
Why is PD important?

Today’s Job Market

1. The tight job market in higher education is widespread.
2. Job mobility (multiple careers) is the new normal.

Measures for Success

✓ Students need information about alternative employment options.
✓ Students need to prepare for a larger array of employment opportunities.
✓ These activities will set our students apart from the average graduate student.
Why is PD important?

PD & Well-being

• Survey by UC-Berkeley showed that:
  – “Graduate students’ beliefs about their career prospects are overall the top predictor of their well-being, strongly predicting their satisfaction with life and depression.”

Career outcomes for U.S. May 2015 grads, within 6 months of graduation:

- Master’s Degree grads:
  - 70.6% = employed FT in “standard job”
  - 8.6% = employed PT, entrepreneur, freelance, etc.
  - 8.0% = continuing education
  - 1.0% = Service/Military

- 11.8% = not employed (both seeking and not seeking)

Source: *Class of 2015 First-Destination Survey, National Association of Colleges and Employers*
Where do grads go?

Career outcomes for U.S. May 2015 grads, within 6 months of graduation:

- Doctoral Degree grads:
  - 61.5% = employed FT in “standard job” (industry)
  - 15% = post-doctoral positions
  - 6.5% = employed PT, entrepreneur, freelance, etc.
  - 6.0% = employed FT as faculty (tenure & non-tenure)
  - 2.2% = continuing education
  - 0.5% = Service/Military

- 8.2% = not employed (both seeking and not seeking)
3 Questions to Ask Your Students:

• What are YOUR career goals? (Not your parents’ goals, PI’s goals, etc.)

• Does your primary career goal fit the realities of the job market in your discipline?

• What is your back-up plan?
OGAPS PD Portal

A search engine for students to identify PD opportunities across campus

*ogaps.tamu.edu/profdev-portal
Collaboration of 8 campus units to provide professional development opportunities for graduate students to better prepare them for professional life after graduate school.

**G.R.A.D. Aggies Collaborators:**
- Career Center
- CTE
- GSC
- ISS
- OGAPS
- SCS
- Scholarships & Financial Aid
- University Libraries
- UWC

**G.R.A.D. Aggies Programs:**
- Certificate program
- Workshops
- Seminars
- One-to-one consultations
- Online Resources
- For more information visit [http://gradaggies.tamu.edu](http://gradaggies.tamu.edu)
GRADUATE STUDENTS:

Worried about your future?  Thinking about non-academic careers?  There is a resource for YOU!

Founded and staffed by PhDs, VPhD helps you become versatile: ready, willing, and able to steer your career in many directions!

The versatile PhD

Serving Humanities, Social Science, and STEM fields

You can

Join the Versatile PhD Community

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• career panels
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• local meet-ups

Plan
• PhD Career Finder
• job listings

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☑ Go to vphd.info/TAMU_go
☑ Enter your NetId and password
☑ Create a VPhD account
☑ Sign in!
Preparing for Industry

Career Center
– AggiExternship
– Workshops
– Walk-in hours
– 1:1 advising
– Company info sessions

Mays Business School
– Certificate in Entrepreneurial Leadership
– Certificate in Business
Preparing for Academia

CIRTL

- [http://cirtl.tamu.edu/](http://cirtl.tamu.edu/)

Center for Teaching Excellence

- Academy of Future Faculty (AFF), formerly GTA
- TA Consultant and Mentoring Programs
Financial Resources

Funding for Research or Conference Travel:

- OGAPS Research and Presentation Grant
- Graduate Student Council Travel Award

Scholarships & Financial Aid:

- Money Wise Aggie
- Workshops (online videos & face-to-face seminars)
- Scholarships & Grants just for Graduate students!!
Other Resources

• University Writing Center
  – Dissertation Retreat
  – Dissertation/Thesis Writing Groups

• POWER Writing Program (College of EHD)
  – Workshops, Credit Bearing Courses, Consultations

• Student Counseling Services
  – Grad Student support groups
  – Career Interest testing
  – 1:1 counseling
We Need Your Help!

• G.R.A.D. Aggies formed to Improve Publicity of PD Opportunities:
  – The availability of existing PD programs are not known throughout campus

✓ Almost 40% of students said the best way to be notified of PD events was through their graduate advisor
  ✓ Join the Grad Advisor listserv
  ✓ Push events & resources to students
OGAPS  PD contact:

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Questions?
Comments?