
1. OnePurdue/Banner: Standard PIN Numbers versus Registration PIN Numbers

The decision was made both by departments to use the Standard PIN number for all College of Education graduate students beginning with Spring 2009 registration.

2. 2008 Graduate Admissions Report

No official admission or enrollment numbers were available from the Graduate School. Unofficial enrollment numbers show we are five below enrollment from one year ago. Enrollment and acceptance rates will be discussed as soon as the data is available.

3. Ph.D. Programs: Disband any present, or start any new, doctoral programs

There is no official process in the College for closing a degree program. Decisions about closing programs are the responsibility of the Dean, Provost, and President. It is suggested that a program be considered dormant or suspended rather than closed if it is believed that faculty may want to offer the program again in the future.

Currently, the Curriculum and Instruction Graduate Committee are having discussions with the areas of specialization in regard to reviewing, and possibly restructuring, existing programs.

When developing a new program, the College does have a procedure. The area of specialization brings a recommendation to the appropriate departmental graduate committee. If approved, the proposed program is reviewed next by departmental faculty; if approved by the Department, the proposed program is reviewed by the COE Curriculum Committee, and finally by the entire College of Education faculty at a regularly scheduled faculty meeting. Some new programs also require approval by the university and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE). The Provost’s office should be informed early in the process that a new program is being considered.

4. U.S. News Benchmark Data

A handout was provided from the Office of Institutional Research showing the U.S. News national ranking data for Purdue University and its peer institutions. Dr. Moon encouraged both departments to have conversations with faculty as to how the College of Education can
improve the quality of our doctoral programs, particularly with regard to GRE scores, acceptance rate, number of doctorates granted per faculty, and funded research. Discussion followed.

5. Doctoral Recruitment and Quality Initiatives

One of our goals for this year is to increase the number and quality of doctoral applicants to COE Ph.D. programs. Dr. Moon has a budget of $10,000 to use toward recruitment and asked the group to act as a think tank as to how this money might be used effectively to get results.

Discussion followed with various possibilities:

- Program areas should identify top 5 to 10 “must have” prospective students and invite them for a campus visit.
  --Have a Day on Campus for prospective students in which all program areas participate. American Studies has a three-day weekend for those who have applied to Purdue.
  --Graduate students could be hosted overnight by graduate students to save expense.

- Increase support as other universities are able to offer a better funding package for top individuals.
  --Recruit donors for graduate scholarships. Although this should be tried, it is very expensive to fund a fellowship (approximately $40,000 is needed). At the moment, current graduate scholarships provide about $1,000 per year from a $25,000 endowment.
  --A faster route might be to look at the funding systems for graduate students in the departments. Can changes be made to assist in providing funding packages to high quality students?

- Some students have said they decide which university to attend based on whether a faculty member or department head answers their e-mail.
  --Connect faculty with prospective students.

- There is a need to have higher quality individuals apply.
  --C&I had a booth with 4 or 5 other universities at major national conferences; not much cost, but this was not very successful.
  --Funded booths at state conferences; very cheap; not sure how successful.
  --International travel grants from the Graduate School are very helpful in attracting students, e.g., Asian recruitment trip, but are also very expensive ($15,000).

- Some students attend a university to work with a specific faculty member.

- Are the College of Education websites attracting doctoral students? Update students’ profiles and add graduate student projects. COE centers need more information
included on the website. Let current students look at websites and give suggestions for improvement.

- We need interaction with prospects in a “community” environment; possibly host a live chat with current graduate students during a specific time.

- Use online professional networking.

- Program areas can update GradSchool.com for better global visibility.

- Where are we advertising? Perhaps Facebook?

- Create a contact sheet with questions (How did you hear about Purdue? What program are you interested in?) for prospects to complete on the Office of Graduate Studies website; then staff can forward information to faculty member to respond.

6. Ph.D. Retention and Time to Degree

A handout was provided with retention and time to degree data from the Graduate School. These are very important metrics in the new Purdue strategic plan. There is a need for the College of Education to decrease the time to degree of doctoral students. One problem has been getting students to submit a plan of study, especially for part time and off-campus students. In the future, the Office of Graduate Studies will do an annual audit of doctoral students to assist with notifying students and faculty advisors that a plan of study should be submitted.

It would be helpful to have the time to degree data broken out by degree and program area and publicized in the College. Kathy Dietz will work with the Graduate School to get this information and will pass it on to Heads of Departments and programs.