

A Word from the Dean. . . .

Spring is a time of change and new growth and the same applies to the Graduate School at NC State. New programs are sprouting up all over, including a Master's of Global Innovation Management (a program so exciting even many University Deans are volunteering to go!) and a Graduate Certificate in Public Policy that is well in keeping with NC State's many contributions to providing analysis to lawmakers and other policymakers in North Carolina.

A major new initiative from the Graduate School in professional development for all graduate students and postdoctoral scholars is also blooming. Called Preparing Future Leaders, the program



Terri Lomax
Dean of the Graduate School

provides seminars in skills that are valuable to all future careers (and succeeding in graduate school!), such as conflict resolution, effective leadership, and communication at work (see [Upcoming Events](#) on page 4). In addition, there is a training series in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR), as well as

the Certificate of Accomplishment in Teaching (CoAT) that allow students a chance to demonstrate their commitment to teaching excellence by fulfilling a set of requirements related to teaching

and learning and Preparing the Professoriate (PTP) program. So far, the positive response from those attending has been overwhelming! Look for more new developments to emerge as we strive to prepare our students the best way possible for successful careers and contributions to society.

We look forward to seeing you at the Graduate Student Research Symposium on March 19 at McKimmon Center -- the premier opportunity to see top research from some of the best and brightest students across the University.

Enjoy the spring!

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Graduate School Profile: Dr. Duane Larick

As Senior Associate Dean for the Graduate School, Dr. Duane Larick finds that his days vary so much that it is hard to describe an average day. But it does not take long to find that he has no problem keeping it full.

"I spend most of my time working on Program Development, revisions of existing programs, and managing the Graduate Student Support Plan." At NC State, all new programs must be approved on campus and by UNC-GA (University of North Carolina General Administration). The process of developing a new graduate program begins within each department. However, Dr. Larick's role is to facilitate the development of new programs as well as to coordinate those efforts and "pull groups of people together." Dr. Larick came to NC State in 1984 as a professor in the Food Science department. His insight and experiences help him to assist faculty with developing proposals for UNC-GA approval.

One of Dr. Larick's most visible roles is representing the NC State Graduate School on committees and in task forces. He said that "one of the really exciting things that I just finished is a task force on interdisciplinary programs." He explained that while there have historically been endemic problems with these programs "much of the cutting-edge research is now being done at the intersection of disciplines and across traditional departmental boundaries." He looks forward to helping the campus implement the recommendations of the task force.



Dr. Duane Larick

There is also a great deal of interest on our campus relative to

“establishing dual degree programs, especially international programs.” A good example of this is the recently established Masters in Global Innovation Management program which will be offered in partnership with the Université Paul Cézanne Graduate School of Management (IAE) in Aix-en-Provence, France. (See [News Briefs](#) section for more information about this new program).

Dr. Larick also deals with many of the day-to-day issues of running the Graduate School, such as working with budgets, new projects, and personnel. A thread running through all of these roles is his effort to “solve the problems of 40 people in the Graduate School plus the thousands of graduate students.” It is a job involving lots of phone calls, emails, and meetings. It is no wonder that Dr. Larick has a hard time describing a typical day.

When Dr. Larick is working, he is never far from his phone and email, but when he is away, he likes to get *really* away. Some of his favorite vacations have been to locations as far away as Northern Ontario and Puerto Rico. Although these two spots are quite different from each other, they both share an abundance of nature and wildlife. Reminders of Dr. Larick’s favorite pastimes, fishing and hunting, cover the walls of his office. Dr. Larick’s youngest hunting dog completed training, and in celebration, they headed out for a nice splash in an icy swamp!

Graduate Student Profile: Shawn Holmes

Shawn Holmes is no stranger to graduate school, but her path to NC State has been a winding one. She earned her doctorate in Dental Science from Temple University and was a practicing dentist for 10 years in Philadelphia. During that time, she also served on the University Faculty/Staff board and worked as a supervising dentist at a nearby hygiene school. Eventually, it was those experiences that led her to realize that “what I need to be doing is teaching.”

From there, she earned a Masters in Multicultural Education at Eastern University in Pennsylvania and taught high school biology in Philadelphia, PA, and Long Beach, CA. She loved teaching and enjoyed relating her research background and work experience to her students. However, Holmes eventually decided that she was not suited to the restrictive environment of the public school system.



Shawn Holmes

She describes her current pursuit of a Doctorate in Science Education at NC State as a balanced blend of education and science. The program requires a core of graduate coursework in a science discipline with the rest of the coursework coming from the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education. Her previous experience in graduate school has given her the confidence to squeeze in her final five graduate school courses into the spring semester. Holmes has planned the next academic year for completing her study and dissertation.

Holmes’ research will involve measuring the ethical sensitivity of student teachers to racial and gender intolerant behavior. There is a pre-existing instrument for this study that is video based, but she will be using a gaming environment because of its greater immersive ability. She has experience with computer simulations from her work with Dr. Len Annetta and Prof. Michael Young on the Hi-Fives program (<http://ced.ncsu.edu/hifives>). This innovative concept uses the Half-Life engine to design games with an educational bent. The interface allows teachers without programming experience to create computer simulations for everything from the underwater world to solving mysteries by studying chemical properties.

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Like many graduate students, Holmes’s spare time is quite rare. However, one reason that she and her husband chose to live in Raleigh was the greenways -- and they make sure to take out their bikes and ride whenever they can. Another thing that Holmes says helps her to keep sane is “reading just a little bit of a fiction book, perhaps as little as 2-3 pages.” It may not be much, but she says it helps her to “feel like I’m alright.” After all, what are a few more pages after the reading for five graduate classes?

Office of International Services

The first international student was admitted to NC State in 1893, a mere half dozen years after the State College was founded. However, there was no assistance available for international students until the early 1960's. Today the Office of International Services (OIS) (<http://www.ncsu.edu/oisss>) provides services from advising to organizing social events.

The main challenge for OIS today is the increasing number of international graduate students. However, these students are coming to NC State more prepared than ever. According to the Director of OIS, Michael Bustle, "twenty years ago newcomers to the U.S. took a while to understand our customs and language... now, most new international students have really good speaking skills, are familiar with US culture through lots of movies and friendships overseas, and more western-style education."

However, seeing the U.S. in movies does not completely prepare international students with such mundane (although highly important) tasks as finding an apartment and obtaining health insurance. The OIS website provides extensive information from the legal implications of a lease to discussing the advantages and disadvantages of having a roommate. For undergraduates, OIS is a crucial part of the admissions process. In contrast, most incoming international graduate students work directly with their program and with The Graduate School for admission and certificates of visa eligibility.

OIS provides multiple social programs for learning the language, the culture or both. A great example of this is the Breaking Bread program (<http://www.ncsu.edu/oisss/programs/bread.htm>) which matches International Students with members of the local community for a one-time meeting. This allows Americans to meet someone from another country without leaving their own home and provides the International Student with a close-up look at American life - and a home cooked meal. There are also programs directed towards the family of the graduate student, such as international Moms or Mates (iM.O.M) (<http://www.ncsu.edu/oisss/programs/iMOM.htm>).

Coming to NC State from another country can be challenging, but OIS helps with many of the hurdles. There are great advantages both for international graduate students and for their US counterparts. Bustle said "I can't begin to tell others how often a cross-cultural friendship made in school goes way beyond graduation day, changes you for the better, can pay off professionally, and is its own reward."

News Briefs

New Master's Degree Program Announced. The College of Management has launched a new Master of Global Innovation Management degree program. This one-year graduate program is designed to give students in science, engineering, and other technically oriented fields strong exposure to core international business management skills. Graduates receive two (2) Master's degrees and coursework takes place in France and the United States. Applications are being accepted until **April 4** for the Fall 2008 semester. For more information about the program, see <http://mgt.ncsu.edu/mgim>.

2007-2008 Summer Research Experiences. Co-sponsored by the NC State Graduate School and the Division of Undergraduate Academic Programs, the Summer Research Programs offer hands-on research experiences that introduce undergraduate students to all aspects of research. Among the many benefits, the program assists potential graduate students in determining their interest in research, makes students more desirable candidates for graduate school, and prepares students to be more competitive for scholarships and fellowships. Additionally, many of the past participants have continued their graduate studies at NC State. For individual program and contact information, see <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/faculty-and-staff/docs/SRE-brochure.pdf>.

Upcoming Events

Preparing Future Leaders Seminars. As part of the Preparing Future Leaders Program, the Graduate School provides support for the many facets of graduate education, including preparing both graduate students and postdocs for their professional lives after earning their degrees. Professional Development Seminars (PDS) address issues that students may encounter both in graduate school and in the early parts of their careers. The Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) program focuses on research issues for beginning graduate students. Upcoming seminars include:

- March 20 Responsible Authorship and Peer Review
- March 28 Conflict Resolution
- March 31 When Good Professionals Go Bad
- April 3 Social Responsibility and Social Justice
- April 10 Using Animals in Research -- What Makes it Right?
- April 14 Communicating with the Press and the Public

For detailed information and registration, please visit the Preparing Future Leaders website at <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/preparing-future-leaders/allseminars.html>.

Graduate Student Research Symposium. The third annual Graduate Student Research Symposium will be held in McKimmon Center on **Wednesday, March 19**. The Symposium will commence with opening remarks at 1:15 pm, followed by the poster session and competition. Dr. John Gilligan, Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies, will announce the awards at 4:15 pm. All interested students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend.

ETD Workshops. Training sessions for Electronic Theses and Dissertations are being conducted through both spring semester and both summer sessions. Workshops are held in the ITTC labs at DH Hill Library. The ETD Workshops cover format requirements, steps for thesis and dissertation submission, deadlines, use of Adobe Acrobat software and creation of PDF files for electronic submission. Please check <http://www.grad.ncsu.edu/reports/etd/etdwc.asp> to check for dates/time, space availability, and registration.

Note from the Grapevine Staff. The Grapevine will be on hiatus until the July-August 2008 issue. We will be hard at work, however, to create an orientation issue for the Fall Semester. If anyone has events for the graduate student body, please let us know, and we'll be happy to consider them for the July-August edition.

Funding Opportunities

Nationally Competitive Fellowships. The Graduate School maintains a list of nationally competitive fellowships by deadline date. For more information, see http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/grad_fellows/index.html. Also, see our new Fellowship web page for other funding opportunities for graduate students: <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/financial-support/fellows.html>

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If you would like your program, students or faculty considered for an article in **The Grapevine**, please contact Jenn Mercer at jenn_mercer@ncsu.edu