

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

ScholarWorks@UARK

Graduate School and International Education
Annual Report

Graduate School

2012

Annual Report, 2011-2012

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Graduate School and International Education

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/gradar>

Citation

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Graduate School and International Education. (2012). Annual Report, 2011-2012. *Graduate School and International Education Annual Report*. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/gradar/2>

This Periodical is brought to you for free and open access by the Graduate School at ScholarWorks@UARK. It has been accepted for inclusion in Graduate School and International Education Annual Report by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UARK. For more information, please contact ccmiddle@uark.edu.

**ANNUAL REPORT
GRADUATE SCHOOL AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
2011-12**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Executive Summary
2. Significant Achievements and Changes
3. Goals and Background
4. Highlights: Progress and Accomplishments
 - a. Graduate School and International Education (GSIE) Dean's Office
 - b. Graduate and International Recruitment and Admissions, and Sponsored Student Programs
 - c. Graduate Student Activities
 - d. Graduate Assistantships, Fellowships and Travel Grants
 - e. Study Abroad and International Exchange
 - f. International Students and Scholars
 - g. Testing Services
 - h. Office of Program Assessment
 - i. Interdisciplinary Graduate Degree Programs
5. Assessment of the Graduate School and International Education
6. Appendix – Tables
7. Attachments – Individual Unit Reports

Executive Summary

2011-12 was our second year as a combined unit of graduate and international education, and our first with a permanent dean. A number of noteworthy accomplishments occurred and we began a comprehensive strategic planning effort, which is on-going. We continue to realize the efficiencies resulting from the combination of international and graduate education. We struggle with our goal of increasing graduate enrollments, despite an increase in the number of quality applications, as departments/programs are reluctant to accept graduate students amid the pressure of increasing undergraduate enrollment. More students are integrating a significant international experience into the undergraduate career or participating in reciprocal exchange agreements, and we have increased the number of enrolled international students and international scholars conducting research or teaching at the University. All of our units face on-going challenges related to increasing expectations and limited resources, but all have achieved significant successes. Our interdisciplinary degree programs continue to be extremely valuable for the University. Over-all, we would rate the 2011-2012 year as filled with challenges, opportunities, and enthusiasm for working together.

Significant Achievements and Changes

Dr. Todd Shields was chosen to be the dean of the Graduate School and International Education, and we moved forward with a comprehensive strategic planning effort to maximize the successes of our new unit. In August 2011, the office of the Dean was temporarily relocated to Stone

House (North and South) during the renovation of Ozark Hall. In 2012, we instituted our first-ever Graduate Education Week, including a reception for our current Distinguished Doctoral and Doctoral Academy Fellows. Included in the week was our annual Abstract to Contract graduate student research competition. This year we had a record 150 submissions, and Governor Beebe, Chancellor Gearhart and Provost Gaber delivered the awards to the students. Also in 2012, we welcomed our largest-ever class of George Washington Carver students, with 44 students coming to campus from 14 universities and eight states. Thirty-six universities and colleges are now part of our Carver network. We hosted our 2nd annual McNair conference in November 2011, with 25 participants from eight universities. The poet, Nikki Giovanni, gave the keynote address. We have received our first ten applications for the Pre-Academic Program for SENACYT Scholars, for graduates from public high schools in the rural interior of Panama, with an additional 29 applications for students wishing to enter in spring 2013. The University of Arkansas hosted the Rwandan Ambassador to the United States at the annual cultural immersion program which recreated a traditional Rwandan engagement ceremony.

As we completed our second year together, we celebrate the following additional achievements and changes:

- DeDe Long, Director of Study Abroad, was named the Advocate of the Year by NAFSA: The Association of International Educators and received the Distinguished Service Award from NAFSA Region III.
- Gloria Flores, Director of our Sponsored Students Office, received the Outstanding Service Award by the Institute of International Education for the Fulbright Scholarship Program in May 2012.
- Mike Waldie, Senior Foreign Student Adviser in the office of International Students and Scholars, was honored as Employee of the Year.
- The University of Arkansas enrolled an all-time record of 1,191 international students in the Fall 2011 semester, while the number of international scholars increased to 310 – also an all-time high.
- Lynn Mosesso and Leyah Bergman-Lanier attended the first EducationUSA/US Department of Commerce Trade Mission to Erbil, Iraq in October, 2011.
- In fall 2011, 17 new graduate students accepted the offer of a Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship and 47 new Doctoral Academy Fellows were named.
- The Office of Graduate and International Recruitment and Admissions hosted the third annual Graduate School Appreciation Cookout and open house, at which we honored three people with the *Collis R. Geren Award for Excellence in Graduate Education*. Recipients were Dr. Richard Ulrich, Ms. Susan Byram, and Ms. Joda Parent.
- With Julie Stenken and Anna Zajicek, Patricia Koski submitted an NIH grant to create a STEM undergraduate research program designed to encourage more undergraduate students to enter graduate school in STEM fields.
- Diane Cook planned and the Graduate Dean's Student Advisory Board hosted the graduate student family picnic, held for the fifth time in the early fall semester of 2011.
- In June 2012, we offered the first-ever "Dissertation Kick Start" program to help ABD doctoral students complete their dissertation and finish the degree; Diane Cook, along with Dr. Rob Weidenmann and Danny Chand organized and hosted this event.
- We hosted our 3rd annual Graduate Research Opportunities Forum with 11 participants from

ten institutions; the keynote speaker was Janis Kearney.

- The Black Graduate Student Association, resurrected by Alfred Dowe and Shani Farr, received the “Student Organization of the Year” award by the Center for Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education. The BGSA president, MarTeze Hammonds, received the Male Registered Student Organization Officer of the Year award by the Registered Student Organization.
- Cynthia Smith received the Outstanding Staff Leader from the Center for Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education.
- During the 2011-12 academic year, the U of A Office of Testing Services administered tests to 11,000 students, prospective students and those in the community.
- Dr. Yassaman Mirdamadi, Director of the Office of Testing Services, was awarded a position on the National College Testing Association Board.
- Dr. Brinck Kerr, Director of the Public Policy Ph.D. program, received the Nolan Faculty Award for 2012 from the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences.
- The Office of Program Assessment conducted and/or completed eight program reviews during the 2011-12 academic year; this represented a review of 12 degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- In December 2011, we participated in organizing the first December commencement ceremony held in many years.
- The on-line application for undergraduate international applicants went live in November 2011.
- The Annual Study Abroad Fair was held again in late September. The fair continues to attract hundreds of students to the Arkansas International Connections Lounge. At least 40 UA faculty and staff participated in addition to representatives from 16 outside program providers and universities.
- The Study Abroad enrollment of 604 reflects an 8% increase from the year before; 1,647 students expressed interest in study abroad compared to 1,362 the previous year.
- Memoranda of Understanding were signed with 11 new overseas partner institutions; as a result of this and other efforts, the Office of Study Abroad and International Exchange actively exchanged students with 22 partner universities.
- Fall 2011 saw a total of 200 sponsored students, up from 165 in Fall 2010 (+35, 21.2%). Thirty sponsoring agencies placed students at the University, up from 28 in the Fall 2010. Students represent 57 countries, down from 59 in the Fall 2010.
- The Graduate Recruitment campus visit program had 96 prospective student visits, a decrease of 23 visits from 2010-11.
- For the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, International Students and Scholars scheduled 1,858 appointments with compliance advisors in addition to those seen on a walk-in basis and requests processed without an appointment.
- In November, the Chancellor hosted a reception honoring international scholars at his residence. Approximately 100 people were in attendance. Chancellor Gearhart and Dean Shields addressed the audience, and highlighted three scholars for their scholarly achievements and community involvement.
- In our first year of requiring theses and dissertations to be submitted online, 179 dissertations and 237 theses were submitted (fall 2011, spring, summer 2012).

- We developed several new automated communications this year, including e-mails to students regarding the status of their application for admission, warnings of not meeting enrollment criteria, status changes for course exceptions, warnings of upcoming I-20 expiration dates, and approvals for full-course exceptions for international students.
- Diane Cook and Vicky Hartwell each made presentations at the annual meetings of the National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals (NAGAP)
- Susan Byram, Laura Moix, Mandy Prorok, Casie Shreve, Cynthia Smith, and Mike Waldie presented sessions and Michael Freeman was lead Trainer at the NAFSA Region III Conference in Oklahoma City in October 2011. Namiko Bagirimvano, Mandy Prorok, and Mike Waldie also presented at the NAFSA National Conference in Houston in May 2012.
- Matt Sokoloski presented an extended session on international orientation best practices at the National Orientation Directors Association and served as an expert faculty member for a three-day institute on international student arrival and orientation for Academic Impressions.
- Cassie Franklin and Michael Rau co-chaired the Komen Race for the Cure Graduate School and International Education team.
- In Fall 2011, 182 students enrolled in cross-college interdisciplinary master's and doctoral programs; in 2010-11, 1.00% of the master's degrees and 21.08% of the doctoral degrees were awarded to students in the cross-college interdisciplinary degree programs (including the Environmental Dynamics Ph.D. program).

Goals and Background

The current goals for the Graduate School and International Education are given below. To understand these goals, it is helpful to know the application, admissions, enrollment and graduation data for the past year.

Goals for the Graduate School and International Education	
✦	Advance the visibility and reputation of the University of Arkansas within the nation and around the world and promote the UA as a destination of choice for students and scholars.
✦	Initiate and maintain strong connections with, and advocate for, graduate, international, and study abroad students and scholars from the time of initial inquiry through post completion.
✦	Streamline business processes, make decisions efficiently, and ensure timely communication with concerned parties.
✦	Actively seek to promote and strengthen strategic relationships with partner institutions, academic units, university departments and the community.
✦	Serve as the central unit for tracking international education mobility.
✦	Adopt an enrollment management plan to meet university goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of quality graduate applications Increase the number of quality international applications Increase the diversity of applications Increase the percentage of enrolled international undergraduate students Increase the percentage of enrolled international graduate students Increase the percentage of graduate students Increase the percentage of graduating seniors integrating a significant international experience into their degree programs
✦	Facilitate the development and management of innovative and educational graduate, international, and interdisciplinary programs.
✦	Develop resources as needed to meet the goals of the GSIE.

Applications and Admissions for Fall 2011

[Note that the numbers reported in this section do not include the Graduate School of Business.]

Graduate applications for Fall 2011 increased by 3.3% over Fall 2010 (2,231 applications in Fall 2011 compared to 2,159 in Fall 2010), but admitted students decreased by 9.7% (1,110 in Fall 2011 compared to 1,230 in Fall 2010). Our matriculation rate increased in Fall 2011 to 62% compared to 60.08% in Fall 2010. International graduate applications increased from 1,162 in Fall 2010 to 1,358 in Fall 2011 (a 14% increase) but matriculation rates remained low (41.2% in Fall 2011). International undergraduate applications increased by 100 students (570 in Fall 2011 compared to 470 in Fall 2010) and matriculation rates remained strong (66.3% in Fall 2011). For more detailed analyses of applications and admissions, please see the attached report from the Office of Graduate and International Recruitment and Admissions.

Enrollment for Fall 2011

Between fall 2010 and fall 2011, over-all graduate enrollment remained virtually flat with only eight additional students (0.21% change) in Fall 2011. Enrollment of non-degree seeking students declined, with 46 fewer students in this category compared to Fall 2010. Master's and doctoral enrollment both increased, although the increase in master's students was very slight (0.50%, compared to a 5.61% increase the previous year and 7.45% the year before that). Doctoral enrollment grew by 4.05%, compared to a 2.43% growth the previous year.

With regard to diversity, minority master's enrollment stayed the same in absolute numbers between fall 2010 and fall 2011 (360 in both years), but decreased in the percentage of total domestic master's enrollment (from 16.89% to 16.79%). Minority doctoral enrollment increased by six students in fall 2011 compared to fall 2010, with 18.16% of the total doctoral enrollment in fall 2011 compared to 18.07% in fall 2010.

The number of male master's students increased to 51.91% of the total master's enrollment, compared to 50.38% in Fall 2010, while the percentage of female doctoral students decreased from 46.53% in fall 2010 to 44.55% in Fall 2011, although in absolute numbers there were only two fewer female doctoral students.

International master's enrollment remained virtually the same in numbers (260 in fall 2011 compared to 261 in fall 2010), but declined from 10.91% in fall 2010 to 10.82% of the total master's enrollment in fall 2011. However, international doctoral enrollment climbed from 27.97% of the total doctoral enrollment in Fall 2010 to 28.32% in Fall 2011, an increase of 17 students.

Please see Tables 1-4 in the Appendix.

Degrees awarded in 2010-11 (fall 2010, spring 2011, summer 2011)

The 2011 degree year (fall 2010, spring 2011, summer 2011) is the most recent year for which we have official data. Over-all the number of master's degrees awarded increased from 1,035 in 2009-10 to 1,097 in 2010-11. Doctoral degrees increased from 147 to 166. Master's degrees

awarded to minorities increased from 119 to 184 (19.35% of the master's degrees awarded to domestic students in 2010-11 compared to 13.05% in 2009-10), while doctoral degrees awarded to minorities increased from 13 to 18 (14.63% of the total domestic doctoral degrees in 2010-11 compared to 12.87% in 2009-10). Master's degrees awarded to females increased from 509 to 552, a change from 49.18% of the total master's degrees awarded in 2009-10 to 50.32% in 2010-11; doctoral degrees awarded to women increased from 54 to 93 (39.73% to 56.02% of the total doctoral degrees awarded) – an outstanding increase. Master's degrees awarded to international students increased from 123 to 146 (11.88% to 13.31%) while doctoral degrees awarded to international students decreased from 46 to 43 (25.90% in 2010-11 compared to 31.29% in 2009-10).

Please see Tables 5-8 in the Appendix.

Highlights: Progress and Accomplishments

Graduate School and International Education (GSIE) Dean's Office

In August 2011, the dean's office moved from Ozark Hall to Stone House North and South, while Ozark Hall is being renovated. While the conditions are crowded, the staff benefit from close proximity to the admissions and recruitment units. The deans also initiated a comprehensive strategic planning effort, which will include two outside reviewers, one for graduate education and one for international education.

The GSIE dean's office organized, supported, or engaged in these activities:

- Distributing the messages of the Graduate School and International Education to both internal and external constituencies
- Co-sponsoring and organizing the Responsible Conduct of Research Series, with the Vice Provost for Research and Economic Development
- Monthly meetings of the Graduate Dean's Student Advisory Board
- Monthly meetings of the Graduate Council and the University Course and Programs Committee, including preparation of all materials and managing the agendas and minutes;
- Training for new graduate coordinators
- Managing the Academic Appeals Subcommittee of the Graduate Council
- Managing the functional aspects of ISIS; trouble shooting for ISIS issues
- Processing all out-of-career registrations for undergraduate and graduate students
- Co-coordinating the All-University Commencement ceremonies; and organizing all of the aspects of commencement ceremonies that specifically pertain to graduate students
- Over-seeing the application for and approval of graduate faculty status
- Updating the *Graduate School Catalog*
- Preparing several reports (e.g. Peterson's Guide; GRE; NSF)
- Serving as an *ex officio* member of the Faculty Senate, and reporting Graduate Council and University Course and Program Committee business to the Senate
- Serving on the University of Arkansas Campus Sustainability Council and the Fest of All committee
- Processing and monitoring the admissions, academic progress, committee assignments, change of majors, and degree completions of all graduate students
- Processing and monitoring the tuition payments for all students on graduate assistantships

- or fellowships
- Organizing the annual first-year graduate student orientation and the teaching assistant orientation
 - Organizing the first-year graduate student seminar series
 - Organizing the teaching assistant supervisor appreciation luncheon
 - Managing the web resources for the Graduate School and International Education
 - Organizing the Teaching Assistant Effectiveness Advisory Committee
 - Serving on the English as a Second Language Committee
 - Creating the course schedules for the seven interdisciplinary degree programs and the interdisciplinary graduate certificate programs; monitoring and making changes to the schedules
 - Organizing monthly meetings of the interdisciplinary program directors
 - Organizing a team for the Susan G. Komen race
 - Sponsoring two tables at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. recommitment banquet
 - Serving on a wide variety of other committees and initiatives.

Dean Todd Shields and Associate Dean Patricia Koski attended the annual meetings of the Council of Graduate Schools, the national professional association, in Phoenix, Arizona, in December 2011; and Dr. Koski attended the meetings of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools in Jacksonville, Florida, in February 2012.

Actions by the Graduate Council

In 2011-12, the Graduate Council approved 20 program changes, three policy/process changes, one program elimination (graduate certificate in Gerontology), six new graduate certificates, and two new concentrations (a concentration in Biomedical Engineering in the Ph.D. in Engineering and a concentration in Supply Chain Management in the Ph.D. in Business Administration). In addition, the Council reviewed 76 major course changes as well as courses to be inactivated, to remain inactive and to be deleted. The Council also approved graduate faculty nominations.

From August 2011 through June 2012, the Academic Appeals Subcommittee of the Graduate Council heard 20 student appeals.

The Teaching Assistant Effectiveness Advisory Committee of the Graduate Council met regularly. This committee offered the TA Orientation in August 2011 and sponsored several informational seminars throughout the year.

Office of Graduate and International Recruitment and Admissions and Sponsored Student Programs, Lynn Mosesso, Director

Domestic and International Recruitment, Alfred Dowe and Shani Farr, Assistant Directors for domestic recruitment

We added four new George Washington Carver schools, Johnson C. Smith University in North Carolina, Virginia State University, Bethune Cookman University in Florida and Livingstone College in North Carolina. We now have 26 institutional members of the Carver network. The

Carver program also celebrated its 15th year with the largest ever number of participants – 44 participants from 14 universities and eight states.

The Office hosted poet Nikki Giovanni as the keynote speaker at the annual McNair Scholars Conference held in October 2011.

Alfred Dowe, together with Shani Farr, resurrected the Black Graduate Student Association, which was recognized by both the Center for Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education (“Student Organization of the Year”) and the Registered Student Organization (Male Registered Student Organization Officer of the Year for MarTeze Hammonds).

In February, we hosted administrators from targeted colleges and universities for the third annual three-day Graduate Research Opportunities Forum. The keynote speaker was Janis Kearney. There were eleven participants from ten institutions.

Lynn Mosesso and Leyah Bergman-Lanier attended the first EducationUSA/US Department of Commerce Trade Mission to Erbil, Iraq in October, 2011. There are six currently enrolled graduate Iraqi students and 14 conditionally admitted students attending SILC.

Additionally, the Recruitment Office organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Worked with the UA Business Office to create a Request for Qualifications to contract with international student recruitment services
- Initiated a stronger pipeline to recruit diverse students
- Organized and hosted the bi-annual Open House, with 29 students in attendance
- Hosted a GRE Seminar in September for graduate faculty
- Developed key partnerships with NIKE and FedEx
- Attended 63 domestic recruitment events
- Hosted 96 prospective student visits
- Organized the 3rd annual Graduate School Appreciation Cookout
- Sent 6,872 communications to prospective students and received 1,048 requests for information from our on-line prospect card
- Partnered with the Fayetteville Visitor’s Bureau
- Hosted International Transfer Student Day programs
- Continued recruitment efforts in the Caribbean, Panama, Iraq, Turkey
- Attended the EducationUSA Forum 2012 in Washington DC
- Hosted visitors from the University of Kuwait, Vietnam National University/International University, the University Santa Maria Antigua Panama, and the Global Assessment Certificate program from Hanyang University, Korea.

Graduate and International Admissions, Susan Byram, Assistant Director

Phase II of the on-line application for admission went live for undergraduate international applications, a process we have awaited since 2005. We also were able to institute a more automated communication system for admission, for communicating both with students and departments. Susan Byram was awarded the Collis R. Geren Outstanding Graduate School Staff Award in April 2012.

Additionally, the Admissions Office organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Increased domestic graduate, international graduate and international undergraduate applications for fall 2011, spring 2012, summer 2012 by 9.42% over the previous year
- Processed 6,804 applications for fall 2011, spring 2012, summer 2012, a 9.4% increase over the previous year
- Met with representatives from several programs to update their applications procedures
- Offered the bi-annual Graduate International Workshop in February, for departmental representatives
- Implemented some improvements to processes, such as the checklist used to track completion of OPMG prerequisite requirements for admitted students
- Successfully completed a Credit Card Ops audit, showing that we are properly conforming to procedures related to payments by credit cards
- Developed an automated communication system for three of our most commonly sent e-mails
- Welcomed the on-line application for undergraduate international applicants
- Susan Byram presented “Detecting Fraudulent Credentials” at the NAFSA Region III conference in Oklahoma City.

Sponsored Student Program (SSP), Gloria Flores Passmore, Director

Gloria Flores Passmore received the Outstanding Service Award by the Institute of International Education for the Fulbright Scholarship Program. Ms. Passmore was also invited by the American Council to serve as a reviewer/interviewer of the Ministry of Higher Education in the Republic of Tatarstan.

Additionally, the Sponsored Students Office organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Coordinated the annual SSP welcome reception with the Provost
- Coordinated the SSP Recognition Reception for graduating and visiting students
- Recognized Liz Williams and Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy for their service to the unit
- Partnered with Spring International Language Center and visited U.S. based organizations and Embassies in Washington, D.C. and New York
- Attended the Iraqi American Universities Conference in Washington, D.C. in February 2012. As a result, a MOU has been initiated with the University of Babylon.

Pre-Academic Program for SENACYT Scholars, Patty Gamboa, Director

As a result of a proposal submitted by the Graduate School and International Education, along with Spring International Language Center, to the National Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation (SENACYT) in Panama, we were awarded a contract to develop a program for graduates from public high schools in the rural interior of Panama. These students do not have the same educational opportunities as those graduating from urban and private schools. We have created a pathway program for these students that we hope will be a model for other such programs in the future.

Graduate Student Activities and Public Relations/Communications, Diane Cook, Director

In February 2012, the Graduate School held its first ever Graduate Education Week, with the goal of highlighting graduate student contributions to the campus and the community, and also helping graduate students feel special, both in their departments and across the campus. Activities included a Graduate School town hall hosted by the deans, several seminars for graduate students throughout the week, a reception for current doctoral fellows, and a graduate student research competition. Four graduate deans from around the state – Drs. George Herts (UAPB), Andy Sustich (ASU), Robert McGehee (UAMS), and Pat Pellicane (UALR) attended the reception and stayed over to the next day for an Arkansas Graduate Deans’ meeting.

A part of the Graduate Education Week was our annual Abstract to Contract Graduate Student Research Competition (A2C). A collaboration between the Graduate School and the Career Development Center, A2C consists of four separate events: 1) a research symposium competition where graduate students present posters in a setting designed to mirror one they would encounter at a conference; 2) two workshops on preparing and presenting a research poster; and 3) a workshop presented by the Career Development Center to help prepare students to network at a conference and enter the job search.

While we have hosted this event for several years, in 2011 we received a challenge from Dr. Jim Rankin, Vice Provost for Research and Economic Development, to increase the numbers of graduate students who participate, and the numbers of programs they represent. As a result, we tripled the number of participants, with about 150 students presenting.

A highlight of the event was that Governor Beebe attended the awards ceremony. The Governor enjoyed a private viewing of the students’ posters, addressed the audience of about 200 graduate students, faculty and administrators, then distributed awards to all of the first place winners of the competition.

In June 2012, the Graduate School initiated a “Dissertation Kick Start” designed to help ABD students finish their dissertation and graduate. For our initial one-week workshop, 12 students participated from eight different degree programs. Partners with the Doctoral Completion Project and the Graduate School include the Quality Writing Center, who provided a writing reviewer for each participant, and University Libraries, who provided reference librarians for each of the students to call upon during the workshop. Dr. Robert Wiedenmann, chair of the department of entomology, co-chaired the event with Diane Cook. A graduate assistant in Public Policy also assisted with the event.

In April, 2012, Diane Cook made an invited presentation at the annual meeting of the National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals (NAGAP) on the topic of “A One-Year Orientation for New Graduate Students” and received excellent evaluations from the seminar, which was presented to a group of over 100 graduate school administrators.

Additionally, the Office of Graduate Student Activities and Public Relations/Communications organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Offered the annual first-year Graduate Student Orientation
- Offered, for the first time, the Teaching Assistant Orientation

- Chaired the Teaching Assistant Effectiveness Advisory Committee (TAEAC); among the tasks completed by that committee this year was an on-line TA handbook
- In addition, the TAEAC offered five TA workshops and a TA Supervisor appreciation luncheon
- In 2011 we developed a relationship with Chris Branam, the UA representative for the Arkansas Democrat Gazette, who wrote an in-depth article (February) on the graduate student research competition and another article (June) on the new dissertation kick start.
- In spring 2012 we enlisted a graduate student intern from the Higher Education program who conducted focus groups of graduate students to learn which social media they preferred and what messages they wanted to receive from the Graduate School. In June we launched our Graduate School Facebook and twitter pages. In 2012 we also added a photo rotator on the Graduate School home page where we can highlight events and projects, as well as student awards and activities.
- Diane Cook attends weekly University Relations communicator meetings to coordinate with all communicators on campus.
- Organized the Responsible Conduct of Research Series, co-sponsored by the Vice provost for Research and Economic Development
- Organized the Graduate Student Family Picnic, offered each year in the early Fall
- Organized a First-Year Graduate Student Seminar Series
- Trained new graduate coordinators
- Served as an advisory board member for Off Campus Connections
- Served as the Graduate School representative on the Campus Sustainability Council and the Fest of All committee.

Graduate Assistantships, Fellowships and Travel Grants, Vicky Hartwell, Director

In fall 2011, 17 new graduate students accepted the offer of the Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship. Since the fellowship program began in fall 2003, 134 Distinguished Doctoral Fellowships have been awarded. Of those students, 50 have graduated with their doctoral degree, 17 have received the maximum funding award and are still enrolled in their respective programs, 43 are currently funded and working to complete their degrees. There has been some attrition during the years, with 4 students graduating with a master's and declining to finish their doctoral program here, and 20 resignations for such reasons as military deployment and spousal relocation.

There were 47 new Doctoral Academy Fellows, an increase of 6 from the previous fiscal year. Since fall 2003, 453 Doctoral Academy Fellowships have been awarded. Doctoral graduates number 158, another 73 students have received all of their funding and are still enrolled in their respective programs, and 136 are currently funded and working towards degree completion. Another 24 students received their master's degree and declined to continue doctoral study at the university. Sixty-two (62) students have resigned from their degree program for various reasons.

The fellowships were an important factor in recruiting top graduate students to the University of Arkansas. Distinguished Doctoral Fellows continued to be from the top 1% of all students who attend graduate school, based on their previous academic accomplishments like grades and test scores, and also based on their publications and work experience. These students are highly recruited by top schools, and the combination of monetary support and the research opportunities available at the University of Arkansas allowed us to recruit and enroll yet another excellent group of students. The new Distinguished Doctoral Fellows for fiscal year 2012 received degrees from Western Michigan University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Houston, Northern Arizona University, Rutgers University, Missouri Southern State University, Oklahoma State University, Brigham Young University, Arizona State University, Auburn University, and the University of Nebraska, among others.

Doctoral Academy Fellows were from the top 5% of all students who attend graduate school. New Doctoral Academy Fellows for fiscal year 2012 were recruited from schools such as Harding University, the University of Missouri, Oklahoma State University, the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, the University of Colorado, the University of Arizona, California State University, Western Washington University, the University of Minnesota, Northwestern University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of Iowa, Rhodes College, Duke University, the Ohio State University, Purdue University, the College of New Jersey, Tulane University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Alabama, and Truman State University. International doctoral fellows were recruited from China, Iran, Korea, and India.

The dedicated doctoral visit fund allowed the Graduate School to assist departments in bringing 20 prospective doctoral students to campus. The visits aid in the recruiting effort for the Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship and Doctoral Academy Fellowship. The fund provided an opportunity for students and faculty to visit, for students to view the campus and its facilities and to tour Fayetteville and the larger Northwest Arkansas area. The visits were especially beneficial for students who had never been to the campus and surrounding area. Six (6) of the visiting students accepted either a Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship or Doctoral Academy Fellowship for fall 2012.

The graduate student travel grant program continued to be one of the most popular advantages for graduate students. The number of travel grants awarded since the beginning of the program has nearly doubled, from 321 in 2004 to 610 for fiscal year 2012. Increased demand for the travel grants meant that the amount of the travel grant awarded could not be increased to meet the increasing cost of travel. The maximum reimbursable amount for master's and Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) travel grants was \$600, and the maximum reimbursable amount for doctoral participant and doctoral presenter grants remained at \$1,000. For fiscal year 2013, the travel grant award amounts will remain at the same level.

Students used these travel grants to attend conferences in 32 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and international conferences in Canada, Europe, Asia, Central America, and South America. The research that these students present at professional meetings and conferences ensures that the University of Arkansas is known from the Netherlands to New Zealand. These students are our national and global ambassadors.

Two new SREB scholars began their programs in fall 2011. One is fully funded for five years in Public Policy and one is a dissertation-year scholar in Counselor Education, for a total of nine (9) scholars. There were four male and five female SREB doctoral scholars. The distribution across the programs of study was: Public Policy (3), Anthropology (1), Mathematics (1), Counselor Education (2), and Microelectronics-Photonics (1).

The Graduate School and International Education was able to reserve a recruiting table at the SREB/Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, held in October 2011, in Atlanta, GA. In attendance as representatives of the University of Arkansas were Dr. Todd G. Shields, dean of the Graduate School and International Education; Mr. Willyerd Collier, Sr., assistant vice provost for diversity; Mr. Carl Riley, associate director of scholarships for the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Yi Liang, assistant professor in the department of biological and agricultural engineering; and Ms. Vicky Hartwell, director of graduate fellowships and associate director of graduate recruitment. Also in attendance as a guest speaker was Dr. Charles Robinson, vice provost for diversity. This conference provided an excellent opportunity to recruit future minority faculty members to the university, and to recruit future graduate students from the ranks of McNair scholars who also attend this conference. Participation as a recruiting institution also gave the university 12 months of access to the SREB scholar data base, which lists those doctoral scholars who have or will shortly receive a Ph.D. Departments who are interested in recruiting faculty from under-represented groups to the University can log into the data base and search for graduates who are actively seeking employment.

The Benjamin Franklin Lever Tuition Fellowship program continues to be an integral component in recruiting students from under-represented groups to the University's graduate programs. Budgeted funding for this program enabled the Graduate School and International Education to award tuition support to 65 graduate students across 30 degree programs during fiscal year 2012. This is a decline of 8 students from FY2011's high of 73 students. Several of these students also won additional recognition through a number of awards and scholarships.

The Graduate School and International Education offers \$3,000 supplemental fellowships to assist in recruiting and retaining students to the Master of Fine Arts programs in Art, Creative Writing, and Drama. A graduate fellow and Master of Fine Arts student in the Art department was featured in the Arkansas Arts Center's 53rd Annual Delta Exhibition and Number: Magazine, an independent journal of the arts. Her work has been published both regionally and internationally, and her exhibits have been featured in the Historic Arkansas Museum, the University of Central Arkansas, the University of Arkansas Fayetteville, the University of Nevada Reno, the Arkansas Arts Center, and the New York City Traveling Exhibit.

Additionally, the director of this office, Vicky Hartwell, accomplished these activities:

- Coordinated the signing of a memorandum of understanding with Livingstone College, making Livingstone College a George Washington Carver partner institution. This allowed Livingstone College's students access to the Carver summer internship program.
- Facilitated a campus visit from a representative from Educational Testing Services (ETS) to answer questions from UA faculty and staff about the GRE revised general test.

- Presented on graduate student funding opportunities at the National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals (NAGAP) conference in Austin, TX.
- Worked with a team of colleagues from across campus to coordinate the doctoral fellows' reception in February. The event was so successful that it will be held annually in conjunction with Graduate Education Week.
- Participated in the unit-wide strategic planning process.
- Presented three sessions at Graduate Orientation on fellowships, graduate assistantships and travel grants.
- Presented information about graduate student funding at the fall and spring Open Houses held by the Office of Graduate Recruitment.
- Presented information about graduate assistant positions:
 - To prospective graduate assistants at G.A. Interview Day, hosted by Student Affairs,
 - To G.A. supervisors in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, and
 - To faculty in the department of human environmental sciences.
- Presented information about fellowship funding as part of the Graduate School workshop.
- Attended the SREB/Institute for Teaching and Mentoring held in Atlanta, October 20-23, to provide information about graduate programs at the University of Arkansas.
- Participated in and presented at the Graduate Research Opportunities Forum organized by the Office of Graduate Recruitment.
- Attended the Southern Regional Honors Council conference in Tampa as a graduate recruiter.
- Visited thirteen regional universities as a graduate recruiter.
- Worked with the ISIS team to create Student Groups in ISIS to provide a method to track and collect data for those students receiving fellowships.
- Received training in Advance for access to graduate student alumni, with a focus on graduated doctoral fellows.

Study Abroad and International Exchange, DeDe Long, Director

The Office of Study Abroad and International Exchange saw an 8% increase in study abroad enrollment in 2011-12 with 1,647 students actively expressing interest in study abroad compared to 1,362 last year. The annual Study Abroad Fair continues to attract hundreds of students to the Arkansas International Connections Lounge, with at least 40 UA faculty and staff and 16 outside program providers and universities also participating. A new interdisciplinary program in Mozambique was offered, and new projects established under the Belize Project resulted in the participation of 53 students additional students in that program. New Memoranda of Understanding were signed with 11 overseas partner institutions, contributing to active exchanges with 22 partner universities. The Office of Study Abroad awarded \$19,800 in scholarships to 43 students enrolling in study abroad programs during summer 2012 and fall 2012. In addition, four Fulbright Scholarships were awarded during the spring semester 2012 and seven Gilman Study Abroad Scholarships were awarded during the spring and summer 2012.

DeDe Long, was named the NAFSA Advocate of the Year and also received the Distinguished Service Award from NAFSA Region III.

Additionally, the office of Study Abroad and International Exchange organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Implemented the *StudioAbroad* Management Tool
- Provided information to various constituencies about study abroad and international exchange through the weekly Hogs Abroad Information sessions; social media; the Frequent Flyer e-publication; meetings with endorsed partner program representatives; presentations in FYE classes; and various University events
- Reviewed 20 UA short-term program proposals, including the new interdisciplinary program in Mozambique led by Dr. Amy Farmer, an intensive Japanese language program split between Shimane University and Kanto Gakuin University, led by Professor Tatsuya Fukushima, and new projects established under the Belize Project
- Worked closely with the School of Architecture and Fulbright College in the administration of programs at the Rome Center
- Provided pre-departure orientation meetings
- Hosted a welcome picnic in the fall and a farewell picnic in the spring for study abroad and exchange students
- Organized the PALS program to engage past study abroad participations in welcoming new exchange students
- Hosted a variety of program representatives and international visitors
- Served on the advisory board for International Studies Abroad (ISA) (DeDe Long)
- Attended annual NAFSA conferences (Long, Laura Moix, Mandy Prorok)
- Submitted a U.S. State Department grant on Study Abroad Capacity Building in Panama (Long)
- Served as co-advisor for new Fulbright Students Association (Long)
- Served as NAFSA Regional III Liaison for Education Abroad (Moix)
- Presented sessions at the NAFSA regional meeting in Oklahoma City in October 2011 (Moix, Prorok) and at the NAFSA National Conference in Houston in May 2012 (Prorok)
- Served on the Gilman Scholarship Selection Committee in Houston, Texas (Prorok)

International Students and Scholars, Michael Freeman, Director

In Fall 2011, we enrolled an all-time record of 1,190 international students. The countries sending the largest number of students were China, India, South Korea, Bolivia, and Vietnam. We had 310 visiting scholars, also an all-time high, with China, India, South Korea and Brazil sending the largest numbers. In November, Chancellor Gearhart hosted a reception honoring international scholars at his residence, with approximately 100 people in attendance. The Chancellor and Dean Shields addressed the scholars and three of the scholars were highlighted for their scholarly achievements and community involvement.

Mike Waldie, Senior Foreign Student Advisor, was named Employee of the Year for the University. Cynthia Smith received the award for Outstanding Staff Leader from the Center for Multicultural and Diversity Education. Holcombe Hall won a number of awards, including Residence Hall of the year by RIC for 2011-12.

We were pleased that the University of Arkansas renamed the connections lounge in the Arkansas Union to International Connections Lounge, hanging flags of every member nation of the United Nations.

International Culture Team (ICT) members presented at 67 events reaching 7,402 participants. The Friendship Family Program facilitated nine events with a total of 945 participants, both international students and local residents.

The International Cultural Team, the Center for Multicultural and Diversity Education, Hendrix College and Oklahoma Christian University partnered to sponsor this Year's immersion, a Rwandan Engagement Ceremony. The Dean and Associate Dean of the Graduate School and International Education dressed as a Rwandan warrior and a Rwandan woman, respectively. Rwandan Ambassador to the United States Kimonyo and Chancellor Gearhart addressed the audience.

Mike Waldie, Namiko Bagirimvano, Michael Freeman, Cynthia Smith, and Casie Shreve either presented at or led training at NAFSA: Association of International Educators. Matt Sokoloski presented an extended session on international orientation best practices at the National Orientation Directors Association and served as an expert faculty member for a three day institute on international student arrival and orientation for Academic Impressions. Audra Johnston participated in two Export Control conferences on the UA campus, and Mike Waldie twice served as a guest speaker for Professor Elizabeth Young's immigration law classes

Additionally, the office of International Students and Scholars organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Supported student opportunities such as Conversation Club, educational field trips, Global Greeks, and the Friendship Family Program
- Scheduled 1,858 appointments with compliance advisors as well as those seen on a walk-in basis
- Filed Labor Certification applications and immigrant petitions for U of A employees' permanent residence processes
- Collaborated with University Housing to offer the Holcombe International Living/Learning community to 140 on-campus residents
- Offered the International Student Orientation (undergraduate and graduate)
- Hosted an immigration law seminar; presented to the Research Administrator's Post group; presented the training session, "In Their Shoes," several times; presented a series of training sessions related to non-immigrant/non-resident employment and taxation issues; presented a cross-cultural communication course
- The International Culture Team increased its presenters to 205 (from 191 the previous year), representing 55 different countries
- Participated in the two transfer campus day activities offered by International Recruitment and Admissions
- Collaborated with the Immigration Law Clinic at the School of Law to develop a referral protocol for international students and scholars
- Offered International Education Week with many events highlighting the influence of international education on the campus

Testing Services, Dr. Yassaman Mirdamadi, Director

Testing Services administers many graduate and professional school admission tests, professional certification and licensure tests, exemption tests and exams offered by other state and national testing programs. The office also administers institutional admission tests, national exams, credit-granting tests and exemption exams among others. In addition to administering external test offerings, the Department provides test administration services and support to the academic departments within the University, including: Credit by Examination Programs, Certification Exams, the Spoken Language Proficiency Test, the Collegiate Learning Assessment, Licensing Examinations, Remote Testing Services, Placement Exams, Admission Tests for undergraduates and graduate students, and the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam.

During the 2011-12 academic year, Testing Services tested approximately 11,00 students, prospective students and community members.

Dr. Yassaman Mirdamadi was awarded a position on the National College Testing Association Board.

The Office moved from Hotz Hall to a location on Razorback Road.

Additionally, the Office of Testing Services organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Collaborated with the College of Education Human Resource Development Program by administering the NOCTI exams to their students specifically to accommodate the adult learners in their particular program. Taking these exams accelerates degree-completion for working adults by offering credit for knowledge gained by experience.
- Collaborated with the Honor's College by administering the CLEP exam with the first few orientations specifically to accommodate honor students.
- Consulted, organized and scheduled all institutional tests to accommodate the needs of different departments on campus particularly the International and Graduate Admissions.
- Consulted and collaborated with the Graduate Studies Department of Walton College of Business in regard to scheduling GMAT to accommodate all of their students and prospective students in the area.
- Cooperated and collaborated with different departments on campus to receive appropriate SLPT topics for international students who are interested in obtaining a teaching assistantship.
- Collaborated with the College of Engineering Dean and the Chair of the Physics Department to schedule the SLPT a few days before the fall semester begins to accommodate their international students who arrive on campus right before the beginning of the semester.
- Collaborated with the New Student Office by scheduling and administering the Reading Placement Test with each orientation session.
- Collaborated with the Director of the Office of Academic Success by scheduling and administering the Reading and Writing Placement Tests with each orientation session.

- Collaborated with the Office of Admissions to streamline joint processes regarding admission tests and referrals to Testing Services.
- Collaborated with the Center for Educational Access by reinforcing testing companies' deadlines and providing time for review and follow-up correspondence with regard to students with special needs.
- Collaborated with the Office of Admissions to streamline joint processes regarding admission tests and referrals to Testing Services.

Office of Program Assessment, Dr. Bill Warnock, Director

The Office of Program Assessment conducted and/or completed eight program reviews during the 2011-12 academic year, which represented 12 degree programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Seven reviews were delayed.

Additionally, the director of the Office organized, supported or engaged in these activities:

- Served as secretary for the University Course and Programs Committee (UCPC).
- Prepared monthly documentation for the Faculty Senate agenda from the UCPC and Graduate Council.
- Participated in the strategic planning efforts of the GSIE.
- Partnered with Fulbright College to establish procedures for reviewing dependent major programs.
- Continued to work with the Registrar to streamline program/course change procedures.

University Course and Programs Committee

During 2011-12, the University Course and Programs Committee reviewed nine new degrees/certificates, 64 degree program changes, 142 major undergraduate course changes and 76 major graduate course changes.

Interdisciplinary Graduate Degree Programs

There are seven cross-college interdisciplinary degree programs and one cross-college interdisciplinary graduate certificate program. Three M.S. degree programs are in Cell and Molecular Biology, Microelectronics-Photonics, and Space and Planetary Sciences; four Ph.D. programs are in Cell & Molecular Biology, Microelectronics-Photonics, Public Policy, and Space & Planetary Sciences. The graduate certificate program is Preparing for the Professoriate. During the 2011-2012 academic year, the graduate certificate in Gerontology was officially eliminated.

In Fall 2011, 182 students enrolled in these degree programs (See Table 9). Of these 182 students, 40.11% were international students and 41.76% were female (See Tables 11 and 12). Of the 109 domestic students, 1.83% were Native American, 15.60% were African American, 4.59% were Asian American, 2.75% were Hispanic American, and 0.92% claimed 2+ races (See Table 10). The Ph.D. program in Public Policy had the most domestic diversity with 15 minority students and 29 females. The Ph.D. program in Cell and Molecular Biology enrolled the most international students at 31. This was nearly 66% of the program enrollment in Fall 2011.

In the graduation year 2010-11, the most recent for which we have official data, the MS degrees in Cell and Molecular Biology, Microelectronics-Photonics, and Space and Planetary Sciences graduated 11 students, or 1.00% of the total number of master's degrees granted in that year.

In that graduation year, the doctoral degrees in Cell and Molecular Biology, Microelectronics-Photonics, Public Policy and Space and Planetary Sciences graduated 30 students, or about 18% of the doctoral degrees granted by the University. If we add the Ph.D. program in Environmental Dynamics, which also sees participation by faculty across the colleges but reports to the dean of the Fulbright College, the combined Ph.D. degree production was 35 students, or 21.08% of the total doctoral degrees granted by the University. Clearly, the interdisciplinary doctoral programs are important to the University. Please see Tables 13-14.

Please see the individual program reports which are appended to this report.

Cell and Molecular Biology (CEMB), Dr. Douglas Rhoads, Director

The program continues to grow in faculty, with 89 faculty currently participating in the program, and maintains a relatively constant population of graduate students. Since many of the graduate students are supported on grants or departmental assistantships (not program), the size of the graduate student population cannot grow without new grants, which is not likely during this economic downturn. Despite a weak economy, the faculty and students have been productive in obtaining grants, publishing articles, presentations at national meetings, and recognition of research accomplishments.

The NSF funded REU continues to be a success. During the first year (summer 2011), we had nine students, with over 150 applicants for summer 2012. The NSF REU, student involvement, and contacts is already showing dividends in increasing diversity. The response of the REU students is highly positive, and they are helping to spread the word about UA. As a result of this funding we have already added to new graduate students of color.

The faculty of this program continue to obtain funding despite the poor economy and funding rate. There were twelve continuing grants and ten new grants that support graduate students, with a Principal Investigator or Co-Principal Investigator who also participates in the CEMB program.

Students in this program won the following awards, honors or recognitions:

- ❖ Delbert Swartz Endowed Graduate Fellowship for Outstanding Graduate Student in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Arkansas.
- ❖ Second place in category of molecular biology at the University of Arkansas 2012 Graduate Students Research Competition.
- ❖ "Best Poster Award" for a presentation at the IEEE-NANOMED 2011
- ❖ First place award for Ph.D. paper contest, awarded by the Arkansas Crop Protection Association, Arkansas Crop Protection Association 3rd Annual Conference.

- ❖ First place award for Ph.D. poster presentation, awarded by the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture-University of Arkansas Chapter, Fayetteville, AR. Gamma Sigma Delta 14th Annual Student Competition. March 14th, 2012.
- ❖ Paul Tseng (PhD candidate) 2nd place award for Ph.D. oral presentation, awarded by the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture-University of Arkansas Chapter, Fayetteville, AR. Gamma Sigma Delta 14th Annual Student Competition. March 14th, 2012.
- ❖ Honorable Mention for Cell & Molecular Biology, awarded by the Graduate School, 5th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium and Career Networking.
- ❖ First prize in Cell and Molecular Biology, Abstract to Contract graduate research presentations, University of Arkansas.
- ❖ The David Causey Endowment Fund Award in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Arkansas

Sixteen manuscripts were published with CEMB students as co-authors, and an additional six were in press. Forty two presentations at professional conferences included CEMB students.

Public Policy (PUBP), Dr. Brinck Kerr and Dr. Valerie Hunt, Director and Associate Director

The program enrolled 55 students in 2011-12. Enrollment continues to be diverse. The acceptance rate for 2011-2012 was 42 percent (8 of 19 applicants).

PUBP has implemented several changes over the past few years. The minimum GPA for program admission was increased to 3.20 in fall 2010. Beginning with the last admissions cycle, all applicants are required to submit a GRE score. The program now requires a formal dissertation defense for all Ph.D. candidates. Areas of specialization have been restructured. As part of this process, a new specialization, Community Development and Recreation Policy, was created. Due to low demand, the specialization in Disability Policy was eliminated.

Thirty-four presentations at professional conferences and twelve professional publications included PUBP students as authors or co-authors. In addition, PUBP students were recognized in the following ways:

- ❖ 2011 OMNI International Center Scholarship. Uzbekistan, November 2011 (in Russian).
- ❖ Second place in the graduate research poster competition, MANRRS National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, April 2012 as well as the Best Graduate Student Paper Award at the Arkansas Political Science Association Conference, Conway, AR
- ❖ Best Graduate Student Paper Award from the Arkansas Political Science Association
- ❖ Extension Excellence Diversity Award
- ❖ Second place in the Fifth Annual Graduate School Research Symposium, February 2012, University of Arkansas.
- ❖ Awarded a grant from Winrock International to conduct microenterprise training in Izard, Fulton and Sharp counties.

PUBP students also hold a variety of service positions:

- ❖ President of the Oklahoma Forensics Association, 2012-2014.
- ❖ Assistant Editor of the Journal of Comparative Social Welfare

- ❖ Board member on the Red Web Foundation
- ❖ President of MANRRS, an RSO at the University of Arkansas
- ❖ Southern Regional Representative of the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals
- ❖ Graduate Dean's Student Advisory Board
- ❖ Vice President for Organization, Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce, and as a member of the steering committee, Tahlequah City Strategic Planning Project.
- ❖ Social Science Policy Analyst with the Congressional Research Service.

Dr. Brinck Kerr, the Director of the program, received the Nolan Faculty Award for 2012 from the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences.

Microelectronics-Photonics (MEPH), Professor Ken Vickers, Director

The Microelectronics-Photonics (μ EP) degree continues to expand its sphere of supported research and coursework under an expanded program description of “micro to nanoscale materials, processing, and devices,” but a faculty discussion to more clearly define the boundaries of the program will be initiated at the start of the fall semester. The popularity of the program was shown this year by the twenty-one students in the AY 2011-12 Cohort 14 (the largest cohort of entering students in μ EP history) with indications that this year's Cohort 15 may be larger. Ten students received MS μ EP degrees and three students received PhD μ EP degrees during this reporting period. Two of the MS graduates are African-American, with one proceeding into the PhD μ EP program.

The μ EP student and alumni population continue to show evidence of the benefit of the core technology management/entrepreneurship components of the μ EP curricula in their career progressions. In addition to the highlighted activities in this report, Dr. Doug Hutchings (Cohort 8, MS μ EP May 07, PhD μ EP May 10) has been named as one of this year's Fast 15 entrepreneurs by the Northwest Arkansas Business Journal for his Genesis-based startup Silicon Solar Solutions.

The grand opening of the Nanoscale Material Science and Engineering (NANO) building was held on September 17, 2011. The μ EP program is the cornerstone academic program associated with the NANO building and the Institute for Nanoscience and Engineering, and shares administrative responsibility for the building with Greg Salamo (Institute Director) and the Institute staff personnel.

Thirteen μ EP students (ten M.S. and 3 Ph.D.) graduated in August 2011, December 2011, and May 2012. As this is not the time period of the UA graduation class, these numbers are not the same as those listed in the Appendix.

Fifteen publications in peer reviewed journals included μ EP students as co-authors and 16 students were co-authors on papers or posters presented at professional meetings.

One μ EP student received the Abe M. Zarem Award for Distinguished Achievement in Astronautics; another student won the Outstanding Paper Award and Student Research

Presentation Award at the annual meetings of the North American Manufacturing Research Institution of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

A μ Ep doctoral candidate led a team that won first place in the IBK Capital-Ivey Business Plan Competition, one of 50 teams from top graduate schools in the United States and Canada that entered this competition. μ Ep students also won the second prize in the best poster presentation competition at the meetings of the International Microelectronics and Packaging Society, October 2011.

Space and Planetary Sciences (SPAC), Dr. Lin Oliver, Director

At the beginning of the fall semester of 2011, the Center had 25 graduate students, three of whom were new, and 15 regular faculty members, from four departments within the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences and two departments within the College of Engineering. By the end of the academic year, the Space Center had 21 graduate students, as one completed a terminal M.S. degree and three completed Ph.D. degrees during the year. Of the current 21 students, two seek terminal master's degrees and 19 are en route to the Ph.D. Nine students walked in the May 2012 graduation ceremony as they had either completed or were in the final few months of completing Ph.D. degrees. Several more Ph.D. degrees are thus expected to be completed within the first half of AY 2013.

The Center's research programs continued to thrive during AY 2011 – 2012, despite several challenges noted in the report. Faculty members had been awarded 13 grants with a total value of approximately \$1.8 M, which does not include significant matches to some of these grants and which does not include a large grant that was transferred to NASA AMES early in AY 2012 when Professor Sears moved there. Of particular note are the new Space Center REU grant with Julia Kennefick as PI and Adam Huang as Co-PI, which was written and submitted in August of 2011 and funded for three years during the spring of 2012. In addition to providing quality research experiences to about a dozen undergraduate students from around the nation each year, the REU program has proved to be a solid recruiting vehicle for the Space Center's graduate program. Also, of particular note is the prestigious NSF CAREER award of Feng-Zhen Teng, which started during the final month of AY 2011. Dr. Teng was hired into the Geosciences department with significant startup and other support from the Space Center, and we were indeed very pleased with his success at winning the CAREER award. In AY 2012, Dr. Teng supplemented his CAREER award with another \$50,000 grant from the NSF.

The Space Center's NSF REU program was renewed for another three-year cycle with a new grant for \$357,585 entitled: REU Site: Interdisciplinary Research Experience in the Astronomical, Space, and Planetary Sciences. Dr. Julia Kennefick of the Space Center and Physics department is the PI and Dr. Adam Huang of the Mechanical Engineering department is the Co-PI on this grant.

Dr. Tim Kral, a founding member of the Space Center and member of the Biological Sciences department, was awarded a significant new NASA grant for \$391,675 entitled: Metabolism and Survival of Methanogens under Martian Conditions, to conduct research in astrobiology.

A publication of Dr. Vincent Chevrier that appeared in May 2012 was just singled out and featured in the Editor's choice section in Science.

During AY 2012, Center faculty and students produced over 16 invited and 64 contributed conference presentations, as well as 27 refereed journal publications and one invited book chapter on work directly related to the Space Center's research and its graduate degree programs.

Assessment of the Graduate School and International Education

Contained within the reports from each individual unit is an assessment of our performance. Here, we will discuss our progress related to the goals stated below:

- Increase the number of quality graduate applications
- Increase the number of quality international undergraduate applications
- Increase the number of quality international graduate applications
- Increase the diversity of domestic graduate school applications
- Increase the percentage of enrolled international undergraduate students
- Increase the percentage of enrolled international graduate students
- Increase the percentage of graduate students
- Increase the percentage of graduating seniors integrating a significant international experience into their degree programs

Increase the number of quality graduate applications

In Fall 2011, 72 more students applied for graduate admissions compared to Fall 2010, but admissions by the Graduate School and/or the degree programs were down 9.7%. In spring 2012, compared to spring 2011, there were 80 more applications, and admissions were also up 3%. However, only eight more students enrolled. In summer 2012 compared to summer 2011, 44 more students applied, but 21 fewer were admitted. However, we had 58 more students enrolling. [Note that this does not include applications to the Graduate School of Business.]

Over-all, considering both domestic and international graduate applications, the fall 2011, spring 2012, and summer 2012 admission cycle saw an increase of 102 domestic applications (an increase of 2.6%); 408 international graduate applications (+20%); and 131 international undergraduate applications (+14.3%), with an over-all increase of 641 applications, or 9.42%.

It is clear both that we continue to bring highly qualified applicants to the degree programs, but that they are more selective about the graduate students they will accept, given the pressure from undergraduate and honors enrollment growth. See the separate report for the Office of Graduate and International Recruitment and Admissions, and Sponsored Student Programs.

Increase the number of quality international undergraduate applications

In Fall 2011 compared to Fall 2010, there were 100 more international undergraduate applications, with a 10.3% increase in admissions, and a 9.2% increase in enrollment. Denials were also up 46.7%. In spring 2011 compared to spring 2010, there were 10 more international

undergraduate applications with a 11.3% decrease in admissions and a 15.7% decrease in enrollment. In summer 2011 compared to summer 2010, there were 23 more international undergraduate applications, with no increase in admissions and 5.6% increase in enrollments (one student).

Increase the number of quality international graduate applications

In fall 2011 compared to fall 2010, there were 196 more graduate international applications, with a 6.9% increase in admissions, and a 14.2% increase in enrollments. In spring 2012 compared to spring 2011, there were 181 more applications, a 22.6% increase in admissions and a 12.3% increase in enrollments. In summer 2012 compared to summer 2011, there were 32 more applications, a 17.6% increase in admissions and an 8.3% increase in enrollments (one student).

Increase the diversity of domestic graduate school applications

For fall 2011, we received applications from 485 minority students who chose to disclose their race, compared to 439 such applications for fall 2010. For fall 2011, we received applications from 1,851 females and 2,140 males, compared to 1,702 females and 2,000 males for fall 2010. For doctoral programs, we received 13 more applications from females for fall 2011 than for fall 2010 (468 vs. 455). For fall 2011, we received applications from 1,353 international graduate students compared to 1,147 for fall 2010. Thus, most recently, we have seen an increase in the diversity of applications.

Increase the percentage of enrolled international undergraduate students

In fall 2011, there were 587 enrolled international undergraduate students. This compares to 573 in fall 2010.

Increase the percentage of enrolled international graduate students

In fall 2011, international master's enrollment had decreased by one student over fall 2010, and Fall 2010 had seen a significant decline (34 students) from fall 2009. However, doctoral enrollment in fall 2011 had increased by 17 students over fall 2010. See Table 4. Thus, over-all, international master's and doctoral enrollment increased in fall 2011 compared to the previous year, but the gains were modest.

Increase the percentage of graduate students

In Fall 2011, graduate students (master's, specialist, doctoral, certificate and non-degree) were 16.20% of the total University enrollment. This compared to 17.52% in Fall 2010 and 18.17% in Fall 2009. As the undergraduate enrollment continues to increase, we fear that this trend will continue. See Table 1.

Increase the percentage of graduating seniors integrating a significant international experience into their degree programs

In 2011-12, 604 students were enrolled in study abroad courses, up from 556 in FY 11. In addition, there were 31 students outbound and 46 students inbound in reciprocal exchange programs. Last year, 38 students participated in reciprocal exchange programs. In FY 12, students visited 43 countries, up from 38 in FY 11. See the separate report for the Office of Study Abroad and International Exchange.

APPENDIX – TABLES

Table 1: Graduate Enrollment, in Frequencies and Percentages of Total University Enrollment, Fall 2009-Fall 2011

	Master's	Specialist	Doctoral	Grad Cert	Non-Degree	Total	% Change	Total Univ	% Univ
Fall 2011	2,404	16	1,183	20	136	3,759	0.21%	23,199	16.20%
# Change						8			
Fall 2010	2,392	21	1,137	19	182	3,751	4.02%	21,405	17.52%
# Change						145			
Fall 2009	2,265	22	1,110	19	190	3,606	7.45%	19,849	18.17%
# Change						250			

Table 2: Master's and Doctoral Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, by Frequencies and Percentages of Total Domestic Graduate Enrollment, Fall 2009-Fall 2011

	Minority	White	Unknown	Total
Master's				
Fall 2011	360	1,768	16	2,144
	16.79%	82.46%	0.75%	
Fall 2010	360	1,749	22	2,131
	16.89%	82.07%	1.03%	
Fall 2009	341	1,604	25	1,970
	17.31%	81.42%	1.27%	
Doctoral				
Fall 2011	154	681	13	848
	18.16%	80.31%	1.53%	
Fall 2010	148	657	14	819

	18.07%	80.22%	1.71%	
Fall 2009	137	638	21	796
	17.21%	80.15%	2.64%	

Table 3: Master's and Doctoral Enrollment, By Gender, in Frequencies and Percentages of Total Master's and Doctoral Enrollment, Fall 2009-Fall 2011

Master's	Male	Female	Total
Fall 2011	1,248	1,156	2,404
	51.91%	48.09%	
Fall 2010	1,205	1,187	2,392
	50.38%	49.62%	
Fall 2009	1,142	1,123	2,265
	50.42%	49.58%	
Doctoral			
Fall 2011	656	527	1,183
	55.45%	44.55%	
Fall 2010	608	529	1,137
	53.47%	46.53%	
Fall 2009	593	517	1,110
	53.42%	46.58%	

Table 4: Master's and Doctoral Enrollment by Nationality, in Frequencies and Percentages of Total Master's and Doctoral Enrollment, Fall 2009 – Fall 2011

Master's	Domestic	Internat'l	Total
Fall 2011	2,144	260	2,404
	89.18%	10.82%	
Fall 2010	2,131	261	2,392
	89.09%	10.91%	
Fall 2009	1,970	295	2,265
	86.98%	13.02%	

Doctoral			
Fall 2011	848	335	1,183
	71.68%	28.32%	
Fall 2010	819	318	1,137
	72.03%	27.97%	
Fall 2009	796	314	1,110
	71.71%	28.29%	

Table 5: Graduate Degrees Awarded, in Frequencies and Percentages of Total Graduate Degrees, 2008/09-2010/11

	Master's	Specialist	Doctoral	Total
2010-11	1,097	5	166	1,268
	86.51%	0.39%	13.09%	
2009-10	1,035	5	147	1,187
	87.19%	0.42%	12.38%	
2008-09	946	8	160	1,114
	84.92%	0.72%	14.36%	

Table 6: Master's and Doctoral Degrees by Ethnicity/Race, in Frequencies and Percentages of Total Domestic Master's and Doctoral Degrees, 2008/09-2010/11

Master's		Minority	White	Unknown	Total Domestic
2010-11	n	184	756	11	951
	% Dom	19.35%	79.50%	1.16%	
2009-10	n	119	784	9	912
	% Dom	13.05%	85.96%	0.99%	
2008-09	n	124	684	11	819
	% Dom	15.14%	83.52%	1.34%	
Doctoral					
2010-11	n	18	100	5	123
	% Dom	14.63%	81.30%	4.07%	
2009-10	n	13	81	7	101
	% Dom	12.87%	80.20%	6.93%	

2008-09	n	8	90	7	105
	% Dom	7.62%	85.71%	6.67%	

Table 7: Master's and Doctoral Degrees Awarded, by Gender, in Frequencies and Percentages of Total Master's and Doctoral Degrees, 2008/09-2010/11

Master's		Female	Male	Total
2010-11	n	552	545	1,097
	% Total	50.32%	49.68%	
2009-10	n	509	526	1,035
	% Total	49.18%	50.82%	
2008-09	n	484	462	946
	% Total	51.16%	48.84%	
Doctoral				
2010-11	n	93	73	166
	% Total	56.02%	43.98%	
2009-10	n	54	93	147
	% Total	36.73%	63.27%	
2008-09	n	73	87	160
	% Total	45.63%	54.38%	

Table 8: Master's and Doctoral Degrees Awarded, by Nationality, in Frequencies and Percentages of Total Master's and Doctoral Degrees, 2008/09-2010/11

Master's		Domestic	Int'l	Total
2010-11	n	951	146	1,097
	% Total	86.69%	13.31%	
2009-10	n	912	123	1,035
	% Total	88.12%	11.88%	
2008-09	n	819	127	946
	% Total	86.58%	13.42%	
Doctoral				
2010-11	n	123	43	166
	% Total	74.10%	25.90%	
2009-10	n	101	46	147
	% Total	68.71%	31.29%	

2008-09	n	105	55	160
	% Total	65.63%	34.38%	

Table 9: Enrollment in Cross-College Interdisciplinary Degree Programs, Fall 2009-Fall 2011

	CEMBMS	CEMBPH	MEPHMS	MEPHPH	PUBPPH	SPACMS	SPACPH	TOTAL
Fall 2011	9	47	25	21	54	2	24	182
Fall 2010	12	46	28	23	59	2	25	195
Fall 2009	11	54	22	25	66	0	21	199

Table 10: Enrollment in Cross-College Interdisciplinary Degree Programs, By Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2011

Fall 2011	Native American	African American	Asian American	Hawaiian	Hispanic American	2+ Races	White	Unknown	Total Domestic
CEMBMS		1					1		2
CEMBPH			3		1		11	1	16
MEPHMS		2	1				15		18
MEPHPH		2	1				6		9
PUBPPH	2	12			1		30	1	46
SPACMS							2		2
SPACPH					1	1	14		16
TOTAL #	2	17	5	0	3	1	79	2	109
TOTAL %	1.83%	15.60%	4.59%	0.00%	2.75%	0.92%	72.48%	1.83%	

Table 11: Enrollment in Cross-College Interdisciplinary Degree Programs, By Gender, Fall 2011

	Male	Female	Total
CEMBMS	2	7	9
	22.22%	77.78%	
CEMBPH	25	22	47
	53.19%	46.81%	
MEPHMS	21	4	25
	84.00%	16.00%	
MEPHPH	20	1	21
	95.24%	4.76%	
PUBPPH	25	29	54
	46.30%	53.70%	
SPACMS	2	0	2

	100.00%		
SPACPH	11	13	24
	45.83%	54.17%	
TOTAL #	106	76	182
TOTAL %	58.24%	41.76%	

Table 12: Enrollment in Cross-College Interdisciplinary Degree Programs, by Residency, Fall 2011

Fall 2011	Domestic	Internat'l	Total
CEMBMS	2	7	9
	22.22%	77.78%	
CEMBPH	16	31	47
	34.04%	65.96%	
MEPHMS	18	7	25
	72.00%	28.00%	
MEPHPH	9	12	21
	42.86%	57.14%	
PUBPPH	46	8	54
	85.19%	14.81%	
SPACMS	2	0	2
	100.00%	0.00%	
SPACPH	16	8	24
	66.67%	33.33%	
TOTAL #	109	73	182
TOTAL %	59.89%	40.11%	

Table 13: Degrees Awarded in Cross-College Interdisciplinary Master's Programs, as a Percentage of Total Master's Degrees Awarded, 2000/01 – 2010/11

	CEMBMS	MEPHMS	SPACMS	TOTAL	UNIV	% UNIV
2010-11	7	4	0	11	1,097	1.00%
2009-10	1	4	0	5	1,035	0.48%
2008-09	1	11	0	12	946	1.27%
2007-08	4	15	1	20	963	2.08%
2006-07	5	13	0	18	939	1.92%
2005-06	7	7	1	15	987	1.52%
2004-05	10	7	N/A	17	909	1.87%
2003-04	4	8	N/A	12	833	1.44%

2002-03	3	4	N/A	7	803	0.87%
2001-02	1	7	N/A	8	736	1.09%
2000-01	0	4	N/A	4	737	0.54%
TOTAL	43	84	2	129	9,985	1.29%

Table 13: Degrees Awarded in Cross-College Interdisciplinary Doctoral Programs, as a Percentage of Total Doctoral Degrees Awarded, 2000/01 – 2010/11

	CEMBPH	MEPHPH	PUBPPH	SPACPH	TOTAL	UNIV	% UNIV
2010-11	14	5	9	2	30	166	18.07%
2009-10	6	2	6	5	19	147	12.93%
2008-09	5	7	12	1	25	160	15.63%
2007-08	8	3	5	0	16	144	11.11%
2006-07	3	4	4	0	11	115	9.57%
2005-06	6	5	10	1	22	134	16.42%
2004-05	3	8	6	N/A	17	145	11.72%
2003-04	2	2	1	N/A	5	110	4.55%
2002-03	0	2	1	N/A	3	120	2.50%
2001-02	0	0	0	N/A	0	106	0.00%
2000-01	0	0	0	N/A	0	90	0.00%
TOTAL	47	38	54	9	148	1,437	10.30%

Table 14: Doctoral Degrees Awarded, Cross-College Interdisciplinary Programs and Environmental Dynamics, as a Percentage of Total Doctoral Degrees Awarded, 2000/01 – 2010/11.

	CEMBPH	ENDYPH	MEPHPH	PUBPPH	SPACPH	TOTAL	UNIV	% UNIV
2010-11	14	5	5	9	2	35	166	21.08%
2009-10	6	5	2	6	5	24	147	16.33%
2008-09	5	3	7	12	1	28	160	17.50%
2007-08	8	6	3	5	0	22	144	15.28%
2006-07	3	4	4	4	0	15	115	13.04%
2005-06	6	4	5	10	1	26	134	19.40%
2004-05	3	3	8	6	N/A	20	145	13.79%
2003-04	2	4	2	1	N/A	9	110	8.18%
2002-	0	2	2	1	N/A	5	120	4.17%

03								
2001-02	0	7	0	0	N/A	7	106	6.60%
2000-01	0	1	0	0	N/A	1	90	1.11%
TOTAL	47	44	38	54	9	192	1,437	13.36%