

GRADUATE STUDIES TASK FORCE

The Task Force on Graduate Studies is charged with conducting a self-study to identify strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities for graduate education at Longwood University. The task force will work during the Spring semester of 2016 to develop recommendations for creating an organizational model to sustain excellence and further enhance graduate programs while continuing to support and protect the core undergraduate mission of the University. In particular, the committee is asked to explore the following areas creatively: (1) the mission and goals of the Graduate College and its structure, role and integration within Longwood University; (2) graduate school models that may offer the best ways for Longwood to support the College's mission and goals, including "best practices" in providing students and faculty with social and intellectual community, engagement, support, and mentorship; (3) the ideal size and composition of the graduate student body across departments and programs; (4) a vision for the future of graduate education in both the near-term and the long-term future; and (5) a timeline for implementing recommendations based on 1 year, 3 year, 5 year, and 10 year feasibility. A draft of the report will be shared with the President and Provost who will offer comments and suggestions. The final report will be reviewed by Graduate Council as part of its duty to "provide for long-range academic planning related to graduate education". Graduate Council will share the report with Faculty Senate and request Senate endorsement of the report and its recommendations. The report will also be shared when appropriate with the Board of Visitors.

GRADUATE TASKFORCE MEMBERS

* Virginia Beard

Vice Chair, Graduate Council, Sociology/Criminal Justice representative

* Xun Bian

Graduate Council: Business

* Leta Bressin

Graduate Council: Graduate Student Advisory Council

* Mary Carver

Undergraduate faculty, Political Science

* Kathy Charleston

Assistant Dean, College of Graduate and Professional Studies

* Karla Collins

Graduate Council: Education

* Kevin Doyle

Task Force Chair, Graduate Council: Counselor Education Program, Vice Chair, Faculty Senate

* Tammy Hines

Graduate Council: Library

* Jeannine Perry
Dean, College of Graduate and Professional Studies

*Lissa Power-deFur
BOV Faculty Representative, Communication Sciences and Disorders

* Kat Tracy
Chair, Graduate Council, English representative

* Sherry Sandkam
Associate Dean (retired), The Graduate School, Virginia Commonwealth University
Outside Consultant

Subgroups	Members
Finance/Budget	Lissa Power-deFur Mary Carver Xun Bian Sherry Sandkam <i>Jeannine Perry</i> <i>Kevin Doyle</i>
Organizational Structure	Mary Carver Karla Collins Virginia Beard Kat Tracy Kathy Charleston <i>Jeannine Perry</i> <i>Kevin Doyle</i>
Student Focused Issues+	Karla Collins Leta Bressin Kathy Charleston Tammy Hines <i>Jeannine Perry</i> <i>Kevin Doyle</i>
Faculty Focused Issues	Virginia Beard Kat Tracy Kevin Doyle Sherry Sandkam <i>Jeannine Perry</i> <i>Kevin Doyle</i>

Dear Dean Perry:

I have arranged for Dr. Dennis Grady, Dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies at Radford University, and Dr. Amy McCandless, Dean of the Graduate School, College of Charleston, to conduct a CGS Strategic Consultation at Longwood University. Deans Grady and McCandless will arrive the evening of **Monday, February 8** and will be prepared to conduct a two-day consultation beginning **Tuesday, February 9 and concluding the afternoon of Wednesday, February 10, 2016**. I have alerted the consultants that they will be focusing on the following consultation goals that were outlined in a letter of November 5, 2015.

1. Establish an Enrollment Management Plan for all graduate programs to address marketing resources, recruitment processes, admissions processes, retention and completion strategies, and post-graduate success to ensure achievement of the desired pool of applicants for each program aligned with sustainable annual enrollment goals and successful completion rates and career launch.
2. Establish a Graduate Program Review Plan that includes criteria and procedures for conducting quality and capacity assessments of all existing graduate programs to achieve desired quality of existing programs, to identify programs of distinction, and to guide development of new programs of study based on areas of emerging excellence.
3. Establish collaborative interactions between undergraduate and graduate programs so that signature graduate programs of excellence are integrated with and are an extension of desired achievements of the undergraduate mission and undergraduate program excellence.
4. Establish a financial model that will reward achievement of aspirational goals for graduate education and serve as a continuing catalyst to guide future-focused graduate degree programs.