

**PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR DEVELOPING A GRADUATE OUTCOMES
ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (FRONT) AND QUESTIONS RELATED TO
POTENTIAL GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF SUCH A PROGRAM (BACK)**

**THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
AUGUST 2009**

Meeting/Event	Date	Purpose of Meeting
Provost DeHayes	August, 2009	Introduce assessment strategies, recommendations, and benefits
Graduate Coordinators, Exemplar Programs	August, 2009	Make initial contact with graduate coordinators
Judith Swift	August, 2009	Learn successful strategies used in the IGERT program review
Graduate Council	September, 2009	Discuss overview of the review mechanism
Graduate Council Assessment Committee	September, 2009	Create committee
Peggy Maki and Graduate Council and/or Graduate Council Assessment Committee	October 19, 2009	Discuss assessments and outcomes to Graduate Council
Graduate Coordinators, Exemplar Programs	October-December, 2009	Workshop #1: Begin first of three hour-long meetings to discuss the three main questions (i.e., value, expectations, & changes)
Graduate Coordinators, Exemplar Programs	January-February, 2010	Review three questions in Workshop #1; Begin Workshop #2: Creating an Assessment Plan
Graduate Coordinators, Exemplar Programs	February-May, 2010	Continue Workshop #2; Begin Workshop #3: Collecting, Analyzing, and Reporting Data
Graduate Review Team	Summer, 2010	Create plan for implementing University-wide workshops
NEASC, OHE	Fall, 2010	Response to reports
Graduate Review Team	Fall, 2010	Begin University-wide workshops

Questions for Guiding Brainstorming

Questions related to developing students as professionals in the field

- What are the characteristics of a successful graduate student from this program— knowledge, skills, professional attributes?
- What experiences do students in this program need to prepare them to be successful professionals in the field?
- What qualities make graduates competitive for the best positions in the field?
- What is the value-added for this program, i.e., what benefits do students get from being in this program?

Questions related to developing students as researchers or practitioners in the field

- What are the skills, abilities, and other attributes that mark an excellent researcher or practitioner in the field?
- What are the characteristics of a successful dissertation, thesis, or graduate project in the field?
- What are the characteristics of a successful research or project proposal?

Questions related to maintaining or enhancing the quality of the program?

- What does it mean to be a successful program in the field? How do you know if this program is successful or not?
- What would you identify as the major strengths of this program? The major areas for improvement?
- Is there anything about this program that sets it apart from other graduate programs in the field?
- What are the best graduate programs in this field and what characteristics do they possess that place them among the best?
- What would you need to do to place this program among the top programs in the field?