



*The 2004 Achievement Conference:
Achieving New Heights Through a Supportive and
Interactive Community*

*Saturday, January 31, 2004
The Nittany Lion Inn
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.*



Presented by the Black Graduate Student Association

*Co-sponsored by
The Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity
The Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate
Education and International Programs
The Office of Graduate Educational Equity
The Commission on Racial/Ethnic Diversity
Forum on Black Affairs*

CONFERENCE AGENDA

9:00 a.m.	Registration	<i>Atrium</i>
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	<i>Atrium</i>
9:30 a.m.	Welcome Remarks By: Janis E. Jacobs Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and International Programs Evelynn Ellis Director of the Office of Graduate Educational Equity Yolanda Small Treasurer, Black Graduate Student Association	<i>Ballrooms A and B</i>
9:45–10:30 a.m.	<u>Workshop Session I</u> Preparing for the Dissertation and Defense Edgar Farmer, Professor of Education, Director of Postsecondary Technical and Community College Leadership in Workforce Education and Development Program This workshop will explore the details of two protocols: dissertation writing and defense preparation. These protocols are typically convoluted and sometimes result in the candidates' feelings of intimidation. In an effort to facilitate this process, some easy tips and time-tested advice will be shared. <i>Recommended for Doctoral students.</i>	<i>Alumni Lounge</i>
	Conducting Research with an Emphasis on Criminal Justice James Ruiz, Assistant Professor of Criminology An overview of how students can become involved in Criminal Justice research. Also, where do research ideas come from, and how you can start your own research project. The presenter will demonstrate how papers written for class work evolved into a book and journal publications. <i>Recommended for Undergraduate and First-year Master's students.</i>	<i>Ballroom E</i>
	Time Management and Coping with Stress Mary Anne Knapp, LCSW, ACSW, Clinical Social Worker, Center for Counseling and Psychological Services This workshop will focus on the time and stress management issues that can affect any graduate student, and will also highlight issues that may be particular to students of color.	<i>Faculty Staff Club 2</i>

The discussion topics include Understanding Your Time Barriers, Time Management and Stress, Stress and Wellness, Stress and Personality, and Cultural Diversity and Stress.
Recommended for everyone.

Thriving in the Ivory Tower: Via University Resources and Community Wisdom
Caru Bowns, Associate Professor of Landscape

Ballroom D

Graduate students are usually tied to a department and faculty advisers without much time to explore the universe of the university. Misinformation or a lack of knowledge about University resources to support academic success can result in stressful situations. During their course of study, graduate students may also experience frustration or anxiety from financial, academic or personal problems or pressures. The following workshop is being proposed to inform graduate students about supportive University resources and to also allow them to interact with faculty and graduate students of color across the University.

Titled “Thriving in the Ivory Tower: Via University Resources and Community Wisdom,” the goal of the workshop is to promote university resources relevant to graduate student support and to facilitate dialogue and exchange between faculty and students about financial, academic or personal issues or concerns in an interactive environment.

Recommended for everyone.

Preparing for the Master’s Paper
Connie Baggett, Associate Professor, College of Agriculture

Penn State Room

This workshop will explore the ins and outs of the master’s paper process. The discussion topics will range from picking your topic to the look of the finished product. This will also serve as a venue to answering general questions about the process of master’s papers.

Recommended for Master’s students.

10:40–11:25 a.m.

Workshop Session II

Résumé vs. Curriculum Vitae
Bob Orndorff, Associate Director, Career Counseling & Planning,
Career Services

Alumni Lounge

What is the difference between a résumé and a CV? When is it appropriate to submit either document? These and other questions are answered in the Résumé vs. Curriculum Vitae workshop. Learn how to create documents that get noticed in and outside of the world of academia.

Recommended for everyone.

Publishing in Professional Journals
Ronald L. Jackson II, Associate Professor of Communication, Arts and Sciences
Keith B. Wilson, Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Education

Ballroom D

This workshop will focus on publishing in scholarly journals. Discussion will include the process of writing scholarly manuscripts and seeing them through to publication, addressing one’s audience, tailoring manuscripts for a specific journal, dealing with

reader's suggestions, resubmitting revised manuscripts and dealing with rejection. Most examples will come from the education and the human services, but certain topics will, of course, be relevant to any discipline.

Recommended for Master's and Doctoral students.

Grant Writing: Secrets of Successful Grant Pursuit

Ballroom E

David Hall, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, School of Information Sciences and Technology

A key component of a successful graduate and faculty career is the ability to identify, pursue, and win research grants. This workshop provides an overview of the pursuit process and describes the tools and techniques that result in successful awards. The workshop encourages students to develop their own strategy for funding pursuit and shows how a systematic process will improve their success. The workshop includes information on contacting potential sponsors, interacting with sponsors, and writing a winning proposal.

Recommended for Master's and Doctoral students.

**Diversifying Science and Engineering in EMS:
Alliance for Earth Sciences, Engineering, and
Development in Africa (AESEDA)**

Penn State Room

Michael Adewumi, Professor, Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering

Diversifying the curriculum of sciences and engineering is as great a challenge as diversifying the faculty. The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences has a commitment to develop a diversity climate that will empower future generations of scholars. A primary component of this objective is to create avenues of scholarship that will attract both faculty and students from underrepresented groups while enhancing the research, teaching strengths, and opportunities of the college.

Thus, the creation of a Center for Earth Sciences, Engineering, and Development in Africa. With more than twenty of our faculty having research interest and activities in Africa, this center is only natural.

Recommended for Undergraduate students.

Presenting Research at Professional Conferences

Faculty Staff Club 2

Mirna Urquidi-Macdonald, Professor of Engineering Science and Mechanics

This workshop will discuss, from an interdisciplinary perspective, the ins and outs of presenting research at professional conferences—from the conference proposal to the final panel presentation. Special attention will be given to handling the actual presentation (paper, poster, etc.), as well as questions, discussants, and other panelists. An interdisciplinary audience is welcome.

Recommended for Master's and Doctoral students.

11:35–11:50 a.m.

Break

Research Exhibition Opens

Boardroom

11:50–12:35 p.m.

Workshop Session III

Challenges and Successes in Academia

Faculty Staff Club 2

Etta Morgan, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

M. A. Toni DuPont-Morales, Associate Professor of Public Affairs

This workshop will discuss the challenges and successes which one may face in academia. The discussion will include key traits that are needed to survive and sustain a successful academic experience such as self-motivation. This workshop will also include the challenges that one is bound to encounter, as well as successful tips in making these challenges work for you.

Recommended for Doctoral students and anyone interested in Academia.

Making the Transition to Academia

Penn State Room

Kellie Sims Butler, Assistant Professor of Political Science

The primary focus of this workshop is to outline some fundamental tips to assist advanced graduate students and newly hired faculty in prioritizing and setting goals that will promote a successful academic career. “Making the Transition to Academia” does not have to be a strenuous and overwhelming experience. Equipped with the appropriate tools and the right planning, new faculty can hit the ground running.

Recommended for Doctoral students.

Making Key Decisions About Graduate School

Ballroom E

Cathy Lyons, Assistant to the Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences

Nicole Webster, Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Extension Education

Joyce Hopson-King, Assistant to Dean and Director, Office of Diversity Enhancement Programs, College of Health and Human Development

This workshop will focus on the graduate school admission process. Topics covered will include: what to look for in a graduate program, the application process, test preparation, research experience, funding, and identifying a mentor.

Recommended for Undergraduate students.

**Selecting and Collaborating with Your
Dissertation/Thesis Committee**

Alumni Lounge

Peggy Daniels Lee, Assistant Professor of Management, Penn State Great Valley School of Graduate Professional Studies

This workshop will cover the following: Selecting YOUR Dissertation Committee; Getting Your Committee to Agree to Your Proposal; Proposal Defense...ABD Status; The Dissertation Project; Handling Requests for Revision; Preparing for Meetings with Your Committee; Gaining Acceptance of Your Dissertation; When do you Stop?; The Dissertation Defense; References (i.e., what others have said on the subject).

Recommended for Doctoral students.

Funding for Graduate School*Ballroom D*

Cyndi Freeman Fail, Director of Diversity Enhancement Programs, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences.

Learn more about the Sloan Fellowship for Ph.D. candidates in the College of Agricultural Sciences, the Eberly College of Science, the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, and the College of Engineering. Sloan Fellowship recipients receive \$30,000 that can be used for tuition, stipend, top-off fellowship, materials and supplies, and professional travel and development. Learn about our successes with this prestigious national award. This workshop will not only discuss the Sloan Fellowship for Ph.D. candidates but it will also provide a variety of resources and ways to find funding for graduate school in general.

Recommended for anyone.

12:45–1:30 p.m.**Graduate Student Panel and Comments by***Ballrooms D and E***Dr. Evelyn Ellis**

Wren Fujimoto, Masters of Education Candidate, Counselor Education
Ashleigh May, Ph.D. Candidate, Human Development and Family Studies
Edward T. Phillip, Ph.D. Candidate, Chemistry
Annette Steward, Graduate Student, Agricultural Economics/ Rural Sociology

A panel of graduate students will answer questions dealing with the transition to graduate school and life as a graduate student followed by comments by Dr. Ellis.

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**Luncheon***Ballrooms A through C*

Remarks By:

Eva Pell

Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School

Introduction of Keynote Speaker:

Karnard Jenkins

Co-chair, The 2004 Achievement Conference Planning Committee

Keynote Address:

Frank G. Pogue, Ph.D.

President, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Concluding Remarks by:

James B. Stewart

Professor of Labor Studies and Industrial Relations and
African and African American Studies

Senior Faculty Mentor, Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.**Research Exhibition***Boardroom*

Research Exhibitors

Obiefune K. Ezekoye and Dr. John Hellmann - Indentation Toughness and Strength of SiAlON Ceramics
Containing Different Amounts of $-\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$

Shikik Johnson, Karl Reichard, and Ruyan Guo – Dynamic Linear Electro-Optic Effect in PMN-PT and PZN-PT
Crystals for Microwave-Optical Transduction

Patience L. Simmonds - Building Bridges: Librarians and Students of Color Connecting and
Working Together for Better Academic Achievement and Retention.

Anita Persaud - Factors Affecting the Classroom Involvement of Women Engineering Students

Amber Reynolds – Environments of Bow Echoes Associated with Localized vs.
Widespread Straight-Line Wind Damages

Research Exhibitors

Following the conference a wrap-up dinner will be held for Visitation Students only of the Graduate School. The
visitation students should report to Dr. Ellis in the Boardroom, Main Level.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

W. Terrell Jones
James B. Stewart
Eileen Williams
Kay Burd

Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and International Programs

Janis E. Jacobs
Tineke Cuning
Brenda Shaw

Office of Graduate Educational Equity

Evelynn Ellis

Commission on Racial/ Ethnic Diversity

Patricia G. Hayes

Forum on Black Affairs

Patreese Ingram

Edinboro University

Frank G. Pogue, Ph.D.

College of Earth and Mineral Science

Cyndi Freeman Fail

College of the Liberal Arts

Earl Merritt
Cathy Thomas

The Nittany Lion Inn

Cathie Stong

Black Graduate Student Association

Sharae' McKay, Vice President
Yolanda Small, Treasurer
Sherigo Page, Secretary
Lawrence Young, Adviser

The 2004 Achievement Conference Planning Committee

Karnard Jenkins, Co-chair
Tanisha Lee Martin, Co-chair
Meghan Sanders
Tiffani Payne
Marney Dorsey
W. Terrell Jones
Evelynn Ellis
James B. Stewart, Faculty adviser and liaison
Lawrence Young

Workshop Presenters

Achievement Conference Volunteers