Topics for Table Discussions

Graduate and Professional Education Assembly
Tracking Graduate Student Careers

Wednesday, April 3, 2013
1:30 – 3:30 p.m., Mississippi Room
(Coffman Memorial Union)

1. **How do we create effective tracking systems/mechanisms?** What technologies, applications or approaches do we use? What are the possible sources of placement data? How far out should we track? How do we collect reliable information beyond the first job?

Table hosts:

- Michelle Chevalier, Director, Graduate Business Career Center, Carlson School of Management
- Wendy Friedmeyer, Assistant to the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs, College of Liberal Arts
- Brianne Keeney, Coordinator of Graduate Education, College of Education and Human Development
- Barbara Laporte, Director, Career Services, School of Public Health
- Barbara Smith, Project Manager/Systems Analyst, Academic Health Center Information Systems

2. **What resources can the Alumni Association provide for tracking graduates?**
What is the nature of Alumni Association data? How is it accessed? Are there special considerations regarding its uses?

Table hosts:

- Peter Dahl, Systems Analyst, University of Minnesota Foundation
- Bruce Rader, Senior Director for Marketing and Membership, University of Minnesota Alumni Association

3. **How should/do we use the job placement information we collect?** What does this information tell us? What implications do job placement trends have for the number of students we admit, or for the particular degree objectives for which we admit them, or for the advising we provide? How do placement data affect our curricula and/or our pedagogical approaches, or even the programs we offer? Are we using information about career outcomes to make our graduate programs timely and relevant for our students?
Table hosts:

- Doug Ernie, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, College of Science and Engineering
- Richard Brundage, Professor, Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology, College of Pharmacy

4. **What role can career services offices play in helping graduate students land the kinds of jobs they seek?** What role does academic and professional development programming play in preparing students for the kinds of jobs they seek? What specific services/programming are available to help graduate students land their “dream” job? Where/how are these services/programming available? Whom do they serve? When in their course of study should graduate students begin to think about career planning? Are there particular approaches and tools to help them choose a career path and prepare for the job search? What is the advisor’s role in helping the student define career opportunities? What is the mentor’s role?

Table hosts:

- Noro Andriamanalina, Director of Academic and Professional Development, Office of Equity and Diversity and the Graduate School
- Maggie Kubak, Assistant Director, Career and Internship Services (College of Continuing Education; College of Design; College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences)

5. **How does a graduate program re-design its curriculum and requirements in response to a changing employment landscape?** What specific factors might drive programmatic change? Where does change begin? What kinds of changes might be reasonable? Who are the stakeholders who need to be engaged? What processes are most effective to engage them? How will we know when it is working?

Table hosts:

- Kevin Murphy, Chair, Department of American Studies, Associate Professor of History, College of Liberal Arts
- Thomas Wolfe, Director of Graduate Studies, History Graduate Program, Associate Professor of History, College of Liberal Arts