

Graduate Education and the Public Good

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Growing Advocacy for Graduate Education and the Public Good

- The *Re-Envisioning the Ph.D.* Project.
- The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation's *The Responsive Ph.D.* Project.
- AACU *Civic Engagement* Initiative



Graduate Education Can Contribute to the Public Good in Many Ways

- Input into Local, State and National Policy and Legislation.
- Contributions to Address Community Crises and Disasters.
- Public Education on Potentially Dangerous Global and Controversial Phenomena.
- Inter-Institutional & International Programs Focus on Global Challenges.
- Advancing Programs That Promote Public Good, e.g., Public History.



Influencing Public Policy and Legislation

- Congressional testimony to House Diversity and Innovation Caucus to advance Broadening Participation in STEM fields as a mechanism for addressing national workforce and competitiveness needs.



Sample Congressional Testimony to Enhance Broadening Participation

- Enhancing STEM competitiveness by increasing support for MSIs and institutions that produce large numbers of minorities with graduate degrees.
- **1. Graduate National Centers of Excellence**—for 4-5 doctoral granting MSIs to significantly upgrade their STEM academic and research capacities.
- **2. Undergraduate National Centers of Excellence**—for 8-10 MSI undergraduate colleges to upgrade their STEM academic and research capacities.
- **3. TWI National Centers of Excellence**—For up to 5 TWI research universities with a critical mass of underrepresented STEM minority faculty, graduate students and postdocs to strengthen their efforts.
- Networks built within and across groups and with



Contributions to Address Community Crises and Disasters

- Advancement of Service Learning at the Graduate Level Through Inclusion in PFF & AGEP Programs.
- Support for Graduate Certificates and Degree programs in such areas as *Displaced Populations* and *Migration Studies*.
- Advocacy for alternative vacation projects, e.g., Howard University's New Orleans Alternative Spring Break project.
- Financial support for theses and dissertations that focus on community crises and disasters.



Inter-Institutional & International Programs Focus on Global Challenges

- Climate Change--NOAA funded Project with several US MSIs, TWIs and African universities on climate issues; Now new Atmospheric Science PhD program.
- Immigration and Migration Studies--FIPSE sponsored graduate school project on Race and Ethnicity issues in Migration with 3 US and 4 European universities. Now new Graduate Certificate Program.
- Race, Class and Ethnicity in the Global Context—FIPSE sponsored graduate school Brazil Project with 2 US and 2 Brazilian universities.
- Cultural Issues in Research Ethics—FIPSE sponsored project graduate school project with 3 US, 2 Mexican and 2 Canadian universities.



What Graduate Deans and Schools Can Do to Advance Public Good

- Advocate for valuing and rewarding Public Scholarship in promotion and tenure decisions—The *Imagining America* project. (See June 26 Chronicle of Higher Education).
- Encourage graduate departments to value the application of research findings for the public good in theses and dissertations, e.g., advocating for a final chapter on implications for Public Good, or perhaps a presentation to a community group or undergraduates on findings.
- Support awards by Graduate Schools and CGS to individuals and departments for exemplary projects that enhance the Public Good.
- Build engagement into PFF & related programs.

