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News Release

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Michigan State University Wins ETS/CGS Award for Innovation in Promoting Success in Graduate Education

Washington, DC – The second annual “ETS/CGS Award for Innovation in Promoting Success in Graduate Education: From Admission through Completion” was presented to Michigan State University during the 50th Annual Meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS). The award is sponsored by CGS and Educational Testing Service (ETS). Dr. Karen Klomparens, Associate Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School, accepted the award on behalf of Michigan State University.

The award was created last year as a way to recognize promising, innovative proposals to enhance student success and degree completion at the master’s or doctoral level, while promoting inclusiveness. The winning institution is selected based on the strength of its proposal to meet the award’s goals and to serve as a model for other schools; it receives a two-year, \$20,000 matching grant.

The winning proposal from Michigan State University, “The Whole Student Experience: Admissions to Student Success,” will bring together four projects and 5-10 departments to follow two cohorts of students from admission to completion. Several interventions emphasizing the “whole student,” will be tested, including:

- 1) holistic review of students during the admissions process;
- 2) setting expectations early to help student integration into doctoral studies;
- 3) developing career and professional development plans from the first semester of the doctoral experience through the early years of the first job placement; and
- 4) providing writing development at key transition points in the doctoral program.

“We are pleased to continue our collaboration with the Council of Graduate Schools with this award for innovation,” said ETS Vice President and COO for College and Graduate Programs David G. Payne. “We congratulate Michigan State University on their outstanding proposal and the concrete steps they will take to promote student success in their graduate programs.”

“Among an exemplary group of nominees, Michigan State University offered a set of creative ways their graduate school can use knowledge gleaned from past research to improve student success and achieve an inclusive graduate community,” said Debra W. Stewart, CGS President. “We are grateful for ETS’s continued support for graduate education.”

About ETS

The nonprofit ETS advances quality and equity in education for people worldwide by creating assessments based on rigorous research. ETS serves individuals, educational institutions and government agencies by providing customized solutions for teacher certification, English-language learning, and elementary, secondary and post-secondary education, as well as conducting education research, analysis and policy studies. Founded in 1947, ETS develops, administers and scores more than 50 million tests annually — including the GRE[®], TOEFL[®] and TOEIC[®] tests and *The Praxis Series*[™] assessments — in more than 180 countries, at over 9,000 locations worldwide. www.ets.org

About CGS

The Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) is an organization of over 500 institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada engaged in graduate education, research, and the preparation of candidates for advanced degrees. Among U.S. institutions, CGS members award 93% of the doctoral degrees and 76% of the master's degrees.* The organization's mission is to improve and advance graduate education, which it accomplishes through advocacy in the federal policy arena, research, and the development and dissemination of best practices.

* Based on data from the 2009 *CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment and Degrees*