

# The Graduate

## Purdue University Graduate School

Purdue University Graduate School Newsletter

Autumn 2003, Vol. 4, No. 2



## Diverse Backgrounds Join Forces in Laboratory

by Jon Story

In order to put a face on the new interdisciplinary Purdue University Life Science Graduate Program (PULSe), we are highlighting a current graduate student pursuing a Ph.D. in the life sciences, Chris Fraser. Chris works in the laboratory of Professor Clint Chapple (Department of Biochemistry) and is finishing his third year here at Purdue. Chris and I sat down for lunch one day this summer to discuss his graduate school experience and the important benefits and challenges inherent to interdisciplinary research.

Chris has a background that is truly interdisciplinary. He earned his bachelor's degree in experimental psychology (with honors) from the University of California at Santa Cruz and a master's degree from California State University at Hayward in statistics. He is now a member of the Purdue Genetics Program (PGP) and is working to identify the function of a family of genes in the model plant *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

Chris claims that his diverse academic background makes it easier for him to apply the theory and techniques from different disciplines to his own research. His training in statistics has been particularly helpful in giving him a clearer understanding of sampling procedures, experimental design, and data analysis. In addition,

*continued on page 5*

### Contents

Diverse Backgrounds Join Forces in Laboratory _____	1	Alums Support Graduate Education Initiatives _____	6	Purdue's Black Graduate Association _____	13
Message from the Dean _____	2	Congratulations to Fellowship & Grant Recipients _____	7	New Fee Deferment Procedures Established _____	13
Recording and Preserving Data—Safeguarding the Currency of Scholarship _____	3	Spotlight on Staff _____	10	In Memoriam _____	15
Supreme Court Ruling Affirms Affirmative Action _____	4	Graduate Council New Members and Meeting Dates _____	11	Calendar _____	16
Help for Weary Grad Students _____	5	Statistics — A Key to the Future _____	11		
		Purdue Graduate Student Government Aims for Preeminence _____	12		

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### Grad School on the Web

Visit the Graduate School on the  
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## Message from the Dean



Historians are fond of telling their audiences that nothing is constant but change. As the Graduate School approaches the 75<sup>th</sup> year since its establishment in 1929, change certainly is very much the order of the day in Young Hall. Over the summer months two new colleagues joined the Graduate School as the director and

assistant director of recruitment services. You can learn more about this exciting new initiative elsewhere in this issue. The summer months also saw the revision and completion of our Strategic Plan. You'll find the plan on the new Graduate School Web site <http://www.purdue.edu/GradSchool/Publications/stratplan.pdf>. We have also launched a search for a director of development who will be charged with seeking increased funding for graduate education.

I am pleased to announce that the Graduate School will enhance its role in the professional development of graduate students through two new programs. For several years the University's Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE) under the leadership of Dr. Marne G. Helgesen and the Committee for the Education of Teaching Assistant (CETA) has developed a successful series of workshops, mentorships, and off-campus experiences to provide grad students with valuable assistance in planning their future career decisions. The Graduate School has now partnered with CIE and CETA to expand the off-campus program. Students who have participated in the CIE's graduate teacher certificate program will be placed in a variety of academic settings beyond the Purdue campus to gain valuable teaching experience in the regional, community, or liberal arts college setting. Their Purdue degrees and familiarity with the teaching missions and cultures of other campuses will enhance their professional development and broaden the range of teaching positions for which they can qualify.

Preparing future faculty is one part of the Graduate School's effort to assist students. We are also developing a complementary program with businesses and industry settings to assist students in gaining experience as future professionals. Again, their Purdue degrees and familiarity with business and industrial cultures will enhance their professional development and broaden the range of careers for which they can qualify.

You will be hearing more next semester about both programs from Cyndi Lynch, the Graduate School's director of fellowships and professional development.

Yes, change is constant. And as the Graduate School helps prepare its students for change, it adds value to their Purdue degrees. ❖

*John J. Contreni is interim dean of the Graduate School and professor of history.*

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# Recording and Preserving Data — Safeguarding the Currency of Scholarship

by Peter E. Dunn

As you begin a new academic year with its rebirth of activity, it's probably worthwhile to stop for a moment to think about the research or scholarship that will occupy an increasing portion of your time as a graduate student. One principal difference between undergraduate and graduate education is a shift in focus from mastering coursework to engaging in original scholarship. In classes, you probably spend most of your time learning what others before you have concluded from their data collection and analysis. As you begin to engage in original scholarship, you will gather your own data, conduct your own critical analysis, and draw your own conclusions. Vital to original scholarship or research in any discipline is the quality of your data ... your data is the currency of your analysis, the basis for your conclusions. Safeguarding this currency is an investment in your future and the future of your discipline.

**So, what is data?** Francis Macrina<sup>1</sup>, describes data as "any form of factual information used for reasoning." Types of data may include: a number resulting from a measurement, a picture documenting an event, an inventory of participants in a meeting, the nucleotide sequence encoding a plant protein, or a digital mass spectrum derived from analysis of a small molecule. Dr. Macrina points out that some data is "intangible," like a digital series of numbers recorded from an instrument, and other data is "tangible," like a fixed and stained histological section of tissue dissected from an earthworm. Each of these forms of data has its own unique challenges to ensure accurate recording and preservation.

**Why is it important to record and preserve data?** Dr. Macrina suggests several reasons. Recorded data provides the platform for analysis and interpretation of results from the field, laboratory, or library. They are also the basis for many forms of scholarly writings, and serve as the definitive source of facts,

observations and details of methods, procedures, or analyses. Recorded and preserved data foster the norms of accuracy, replication, and reliability in scientific research. Often of special importance for students or their mentors, trying to repeat or resume a project initiated by someone before them, is the ability to understand precisely how a procedure was performed by someone else, and what was observed months or years before. Recorded data is also critical in resolving challenges to data or conclusions, including formal allegations of research misconduct, that may arise long after the primary researcher has moved on to another project or institution.

**How long should data be retained?** Clearly, the best answer is as long as possible. Practical standards for data retention and archiving of data vary between disciplines and with the form of the data. However, if the data was obtained with sponsorship (funding) from a grant or contract from a U.S. federal agency, regardless of discipline or form of data, it is a requirement that all grant or contract records, including original data, must be retained, preserved and available for review for at least three years after the final financial transaction involving the grant or contract.

**What's the "take-home" message?** Before beginning your thesis or dissertation research, every graduate student should have a formal discussion with their advisor to ensure that they have planned how data will be recorded to ensure completeness and accuracy, and to ensure that it is preserved for future reference.

## Footnote

<sup>1</sup> Macrina, Francis L. (2000) *Scientific Integrity: An Introductory Text With Cases*, Chap. 11, ASM Press, Inc, Washington, DC, pp. 231-256.

*Peter E. Dunn is interim associate vice provost for research administration and compliance.*

# Supreme Court Ruling Affirms Affirmative Action

by Dwight E. Lewis



Dwight E. Lewis

The Supreme Court ruling in June 2003 represents an historic endorsement of Affirmative Action at a time when critics had hoped the justices were about to declare that such policies had run their course. Affirmative Action is the name given to programs that try to correct past and ongoing discrimination against women, racial minorities, and others in the work force and in education. Affirmative Action programs have been in place only a little over thirty years. The principal goal of Affirmative Action is to create diversity and equal opportunities in jobs or schools that previously were all, or mostly male, white, or both due to segregation or past practices of discrimination. There are thousands of examples and situations where racial minorities and women, who were previously excluded from or denied jobs or educational opportunities, have excelled once admitted through Affirmative Action. When these policies received executive branch and judicial support, record numbers of women and racial minorities gained access they would not otherwise have had. These gains have led to very real changes.

The implementation of Affirmative Action was America's first direct attempt at solving a problem it had previously chosen to ignore. When looking at America's past discrimination, we must look at housing, public facilities, health care, education, and jobs. Affirmative action is needed to level the playing field in all of these areas, especially the work force and in higher education in America.

Until there is both equal opportunity and fair distribution of education, training, and advancement to all Americans, Affirmative Action for racial minorities is necessary. Affirmative Action programs only ensure that everyone has a fair chance at the opportunities available. Expanding opportunity for racial minorities, means expanding not only their access to existing jobs, education and housing, but also removing the obstacles that prevent them from obtaining their goals. Equal opportunity is the ultimate goal of Affirmative Action and that is exactly what it has provided over the last thirty years. Before Affirmative Action, many minorities did not have an equal chance to further their education beyond high school. Affirmative Action brings educational opportunities leading to job advancement and more productivity in industry. Affirmative Action has produced a whole generation of African American, Hispanic, and Asian American candidates who are qualified to serve as scientists, engineers, and accountants. In conclusion, Affirmative Action is one of the most important social issues of our time, and will continue to be as long as it is a part of our legal system.

*Dwight E. Lewis is director of minority programs for the Graduate School.*

# Help for Weary Grad Students

by Mark D. Jaeger

On August 5, 2003, the Purdue Graduate School Thesis/Dissertation Office celebrated its first year of operation and service to Purdue graduate degree candidates. And what a year it's been!

Candidate outreach has been a priority and, with this in mind, the Thesis/Dissertation Office has put together thesis preparation Power Point presentations specifically tailored toward the needs of individual departments. Over the past twelve months, these programs have been delivered to numerous departments including Electrical and Computer Engineering, Civil Engineering, Psychological Sciences, and Food Science. Mark Jaeger, manager of the Thesis/Dissertation Office, has also expanded outreach to IUPUI, IPFW, and Calumet by offering field-assistance visits.

The results speak for themselves. With their "casual but comprehensive" approach, these presentations have been extremely successful in significantly reducing formatting errors in the approximately 800 theses deposited during the past year, have cut down on confusion about thesis deposit procedures, and have reduced candidate stress during deposit deadlines. Perhaps most importantly, these sessions have allowed the Thesis/Dissertation Office team to introduce itself to candidates and offer opportunities for candidates to pose questions and comments about various aspects of the thesis preparation and deposit processes. Needless to say, this has resulted in much valuable feedback that will be used to improve policies and procedures.

The Purdue Graduate School Thesis/Dissertation Office has also made substantial progress in its goal of becoming a "one-stop shop" for graduate degree candidates. This is nowhere better demonstrated than in its creation of a comprehensive informational and instructional Web site. Here, candidates can access a wide variety of downloadable documents or links. These include itemized final deposit checklists, a handout providing helpful tips addressing common MS Word formatting problems, information about thesis deposit deadlines, and even a link that provides stress reduction techniques. Future additions to the Web site will include a detailed PowerPoint presentation that will furnish candidates with the means to ensure they meet all Purdue formatting requirements without the need to obtain "precheck appointments." The Thesis/Dissertation Office Web site can be accessed at: <http://www.purdue.edu/GradSchool/thesis.html>.

Upcoming projects for the 2003-2004 academic year include implementation of a completely revised thesis manual as well as a test program for Electronic Thesis Deposit (ETD).

Department graduate contacts or thesis format advisors wishing to schedule thesis preparation presentations should call the Thesis/Dissertation Office at (765) 494-2600, e-mail [gradinfo@purdue.edu](mailto:gradinfo@purdue.edu), or stop by Ernest C. Young Hall, Room 170, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Thesis precheck and final deposit appointments for candidates are made on a "scheduled-appointment" basis *only* and can also be arranged via the aforementioned points of contact. ♦

Mark D. Jaeger is manager, thesis/dissertation office at the Graduate School.

## Diverse backgrounds

*continued from page 1*

tion, it has allowed him to draw on ideas from the field of bioinformatics. Chris believes that the ability to communicate with experts in the field of statistics will be invaluable to his future scientific endeavors.

Sound advice from the faculty mentors who bridge the gap between theory and application has helped Chris carry out his own interdisciplinary research. These faculty face the challenge of successfully operating within a variety of different research environments. In recent years, collaboration between the life sciences and the statistical community has grown dramatically. Those individuals at the interface of the two fields are required to serve as both interpreters and guides. Establishing and maintaining communication is a difficult task, but the rewards are substantial; interdisciplinary research is leading to whole new avenues of discovery. Faculty who make this possible are an invaluable resource to students and the University alike.

How will PULSe encourage students to become involved in interdisciplinary research? By providing them with opportunities to interact with people from diverse backgrounds. PULSe is designed to bring together a cohort of graduate students interested in the life sciences and teach them how to take the most effective approach in solving scientific problems. The goal is for these students to develop an appreciation for the wide variety of scientific resources available to them, and to become leaders in the life sciences. Ultimately, PULSe will arm students with the communication skills necessary for cutting-edge interdisciplinary life science research.

*Jon A. Story is associate dean of the Graduate School and professor of nutritional physiology*

# Alums Support Graduate Education Initiatives

The Graduate School has initiated fund-raising activities to recognize superior achievement by graduate students and graduate faculty. Purdue Graduate School Alumni are invited to contribute to this effort by contacting John Contreni, interim dean of the Graduate School. Please phone (765)494-2600 or send an e-mail message to [contreni@purdue.edu](mailto:contreni@purdue.edu).

### Fellowships

Fellowship support is key to Purdue's efforts to recruit top graduate students. Fellowship stipends funded by donors provide students with direct stipends. The Graduate School complements fellowships with tuition scholarships that, in effect, enable grad students to devote all their time to studies and research.

### Outstanding Dissertation Awards

This new Graduate School program will recognize Purdue graduates who have written outstanding doctoral dissertations. The award will be competitive and include a monetary stipend.

### Outstanding Graduate Student Mentors

This new recognition acknowledges the key role that Purdue faculty play in guiding the studies and careers of their students. Alumni who wish to establish an endowment to fund this award and to honor the name of a special mentor are encouraged to contact John Contreni, interim dean of the Graduate School, at [contreni@purdue.edu](mailto:contreni@purdue.edu).

Recent donors whose generosity supports these programs include:

Charles W. Baker, Biochemistry (Ph.D., 1973)	Richard S. Lewis, Jr., Civil Engineering (M.S., 1978)
Edward G. and Dorothy R. Buss, Animal Sciences (Ph.D., 1956) and School of Consumer and Family Sciences Home Economics (B.S., 1942)	Eric M. Lui, Civil Engineering (Ph.D., 1985)
Gene P. Buzzard, Biology (M.S., 1966)	Kevin E. Lynch, Civil Engineering (MSCE, 1999)
Jack L. Cain, Electrical Engineering (M.S., 1964)	Karl W. Mariotti, Elementary Education (M.S., 1988)
Mark Campa, Public Policy and Administration	Darrell E. Miller, Mathematics (M.S., 1974)
William Cohen, Biochemistry (M.S., 1954)	Susan Franklin McLeod, Industrial Administration (MSIA, 1981)
Alejandro L. deGortari, Management (M.S., 1975)	Max W. Muterspaugh, Electrical Engineering (M.S., 1967)
Archie L. Devore, Animal Sciences (M.S., 1967)	Arnold E. Nicholson, Medicinal Chemistry (Ph.D., 1956)
James H. Gerlach, Management (Ph.D., 1982)	Keith J. Oberlander, Education (M.S., 1964)
Jose I. Gonzales, Mechanical Engineering (M.S., 1950)	Shinya Ochiai, Mechanical Engineering (Ph.D., 1966)
John C. Holland, Chemistry (Ph.D., 1979)	Lois Kruse Roadruck, Home Economics (1964)
John B. Hosmer, Chemical Engineering (M.S., 1969)	Theresa C. Robinson, English (M.A., 1975)
Gelian Ismail, Friend	Howard C. Rodean, Aeronautical Engineering (M.S., 1949)
Donald J. Jacobs, Physics (Ph.D. 1992)	Robert H. Rodine, Mathematics (Ph.D., 1964)
David H. Johnson, Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering (M.S., 1964)	Ronald F. Rodkey, Civil Engineering (M.S., 1963)
Eleftherios Kofodimos, Engineering (M.S. 1960)	Christopher A. Rodowskas, Pharmacy Administration (Ph.D., 1968)
George P. and Edna H. Kurze, Industrial Administration (MSIA, 1957) and Education and Humanities (B.S., 1958)	David A. Sheluga, Psychology (Ph.D., 1979)
John P. Larson, Management (M.S., 1986)	Paul A. Schneider, Clinical Psychology (Ph.D., 1984)
	Margil W. Wadley, Chemistry (Ph.D., 1963)
	Dan A. Watkins, Ag Education (M.S., 1973)
	John W. Whitson, Chemical Engineering (M.S., 1941)
	Ryan K. Witt and Lauren K. Witt, Industrial Administration (M.S.I.A., 1998) and Psychology (B.A., 1994)

# Congratulations to Fellowship & Grant Recipients

Listed below are the recipients of the Purdue University Graduate School Fellowship Programs for Fall 2003. These students are among Purdue's most talented graduate students. We congratulate these students. We would also like to thank the academic schools, graduate programs, and the Minority Advisory Committee for helping make these selections.

## Frederick N. Andrews Fellowship

Bahadur, Vaibhav Atul	Mechanical Engineering
Busch, Joseph, Dominic	Forestry & Natural Resources Management
Cai, Matthew Douglas	Management
Chaves, Johel	Biological Sciences
Chi, Chia-Yi	Basic Medical Sciences
Choi, Soojin	Hospitality & Tourism Mgmt.
Collins, Robert Timothy	Chemical Engineering
Cramer, Aaron Michael	Electrical & Computer Engr.
Drauch, Andrea Marie	Forestry & Natural Resources
Fanson, Benjamin Gordon	Biological Sciences
Fox, Susan Marie	Medicinal Chemistry & Molecular Pharmacology
Hagedorn, Sarah Catherine	Communication
Hagemeyer, Nicholas Edward	Pharmacy Practice
Hobson, Paul Dean	Chemical Engineering
Huang, Chen-Bin	Electrical & Computer Engr.
Kerper, Jessica Catherine	Computer Sciences
Khang, Dong Woo	Physics
Kim, Jiwon	Educational Studies
Kosiba, Karen Ann	Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
Kunz, Eman Zachary	Mathematics
Landau, Damon	Aeronautics & Astronautics
Lee, Seunghee	Electrical & Computer Engr.
Li, Yunfeng	Psychological Science
Llerandi Roman, Pablo A.	Curriculum & Instruction
Marshall, Amy Jo	Agronomy
Merrill, Marriner Hyde	Aeronautics & Astronautics
Motamed, Mesbah John	Agricultural Economics
Petrosky, Kristy Marie	Industrial Engineering
Pillsbury, Nathan Robert	Chemistry
Rhodes, Avery	Civil Engineering
Schoeffel, Kevin Charles	Mechanical Engineering
Shu, Lei	Statistics
Vaughn, Aaron Joseph	Psychological Science
Whitehead, Martin Joseph	English

## Charles C. Chappelle Fellowship

Ault, Aaron Carl	Electrical & Computer Engr.
Cooper, Nathaniel Jonathan	Physics
Cushman, Matthew Thomas	Civil Engineering
Dolejs, Allison Joyce	Civil Engineering
Haas, Alma R.	Psychological Science
Kess, Harold Robert	Mechanical Engineering
Kunkler, Jerene Marie	Agricultural & Biological Engr.
Laaper, Nicole Christine	Audiology & Speech Sciences
Larkins, Troy Richard	Civil Engineering
Zielinski, Heather Renee	Industrial Engineering

## David M. Knox

Davila, Angelica Paola	Electrical & Computer Engr.
Devine, Karen Beatrice	Audiology & Speech Sciences
Jefferson, Laura Dione	Animal Sciences
Manning, Frederick Kwaah	Civil Engineering
McCarty, Candice Quiante'	Audiology & Speech Sciences
McKinsey, Joshua Randall	Mechanical Engineering
Mitchell, Cicely, F.	Technology
Scott, Le'ann Denise	Audiology & Speech Sciences
Williams, Chenee' Lynne	Health & Kinesiology

## George Washington Carver Fellowship

Torres, Melissa Idmei	Medicinal Chemistry & Molecular Pharmacology
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## Kruhe Award

Keeney, Roman Michael	Agricultural Economics
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## Lynn Fellowship

Anderson, Rachael Evan	Psychological Science
Apolzan, John William	Foods & Nutrition
Benatti, Matheus Romanos	Plant Biology
Bian, Shiyong	Foods & Nutrition
Carnick, Lindsey Anne	American Studies
Chang, Eugene	Foods & Nutrition
Churchfield, Matthew John	Aeronautics & Astronautics
Crooker, Keith Donald	Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
Ellis, Matthew Tabler	Aeronautics & Astronautics
Gabor, Octavian Gheorghe	Philosophy
Ghita, Lucian	Comparative Literature
Han, Yu	Plant Biology
Humphreys, Micah Todd	Agronomy
Jaekle, Jonathan Edward	Neuroscience
Krachina, Olga	Linguistics
Kulkarni, Pradnya Prakash	Civil Engineering
Li, Jia	Foods & Nutrition
Liu, Jinxia	Civil Engineering
Mundy, Daniel Wayne	Nuclear Engineering
Nason, Shannon Michael	Philosophy
Naumov, Maxim	Computer Sciences
Nehrt, Ashley Aliko	Neuroscience
Park, Hee Jin	Plant Biology
Richards, Elizabeth Lauren	Plant Biology
Ritchie, Dan Mark	Health & Kinesiology
Rong, Libin	Mathematics
Thomas, Salimol	Civil Engineering
Titapiwatanakun, Boosaree	Plant Biology
Walker, Christopher Charles	American Studies
Weng, Jing-Ke	Plant Biology
Wright, Timothy John	Health & Kinesiology



# Fellowship & Grant Recipients *continued*

Lucas, Kenton Daniel	Aeronautics & Astronautics	Webb, Jeffrey Michael	Entomology
Lucchesi, Julie Ann	Audiology & Speech Sciences	Weng, Li-Shan	Physics
Luu, Dan	Electrical & Computer Engr.	Westover, Tyler Lott	Mechanical Engineering
Macias, Kevin Andrew	Industrial & Physical Pharmacy	Williams, James Barnett	History
Marsac, Patrick Jules	Industrial & Physical Pharmacy	Woods, Amber Joy	Aeronautics & Astronautics
Martin III, Thomas Nelson	Aeronautics & Astronautics	Worthington, Jamie Lynn	Audiology & Speech Sciences
Maschmann, Matthew Ralph	Mechanical Engineering	Wu, Bingbing	Biological Sciences
Mejia, Carla Del-Rocio	Food Science	Yan, Xinghao	Management
Miller, Kevin Joel	Aeronautics & Astronautics	Yang, Yoon Jung	Foods & Nutrition
Minocha, Udit	Food Science	You, Zhuran	Educational Studies
Moss, Richard George	History	Young, Hugh Anderson	Botany & Plant Pathology
Nagel, William Clark	Electrical and Computer Engr.	Zhai, Wei	Animal Sciences
Newsome, Elizabeth Maria	Aeronautics & Astronautics	Zhang, Guoxi	Industrial Engineering
Noubade, Rajkumar	Veterinary Pathobiology	Zhang, Chunhua	Plant Biology
Ottenbreit, Anne Todd	Curriculum & Instruction	Zhao, Jianxiu	Agricultural & Biological Engr.
Parlee, Matthew Russell	Physics	Zhong, Jinghua	Mechanical Engineering
Perkis, David F.	Economics		
Pettis, Nathaniel Edward	Electrical & Computer Engr.	<b>Special Initiative</b>	
Pitschka, Chad Garrison	Biological Sciences	Cho, Mi-Hee	Materials Engineering
Post, Charity Anne	Electrical & Computer Engr.	Fast, Juli Jane	Curriculum & Instruction
Qi Liping	Entomology	Gourgova, Anna Kirilova	Consumer Sciences & Retailing
Quixada Helena, Tavora	Electrical & Computer Engr.	Hamann, Kristin Leann	Basic Medical Sciences
Ravindran, Ashwin	Industrial Engineering	Jarrar, Ammar Mohammed	Agricultural & Biological Engr.
Rayasam, Mahidhar	Mechanical Engineering	Kaganovich, Natalya	Linguistics
Reed, David B.	Civil Engineering	La Bauve, Elisa M.	Biological Sciences
Remedios, Kare, Renee	English	Laboy, Sylvi, Teresa	Civil Engineering
Ritchson, Eric Joseph	Chemical Engineering	Li, Xiang	Physics
Rodriguez-Vera, Rita Esther	Civil Engineering	Mahadoo, Sorubh Rao	Electrical & Computer Engr.
Ruan, Chuande	Agronomy	Nin, Carol Noelle	Aeronautics & Astronautics
Rubio Sanchez, Alberto	Consumer Sciences & Retailing	Pickett, Heather Marie	Health Sciences
Sawant, Pravin Hanamantrao	Nuclear Engineering	Reed, Aisha Chini	Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
Schmidt, Martha Carroll	Medicinal Chemistry & Molecular Pharmacology	Soto, Sonia	Veterinary Clinical Sciences
Schmit, Thomas James	Civil Engineering	Symonette, Simone	Political Science
Shin, Sunhye	Animal Sciences	Triezenberg, Katrina Elise	Linguistics
Shippee, Nathan Daniel	Sociology & Anthropology	Xu, Xin	Mechanical Engineering
Simon, Lois Susan	Mathematics	Yang, Chao-Lung	Industrial Engineering
Smith, Justin Andrew	Aeronautics & Astronautics	Zhang, Yanhong	Linguistics
Smith, Shanna Jenetta	Chemical Engineering	Zheng, Yanan	Biomedical Engineering
Stringham, Michael John	Health Sciences		
Subrahmanya, Niranjan Addada	Mechanical Engineering		
Thomas, Adrian T.	Educational Studies		
Trkulja, Mico	Industrial & Physical Pharmacy		
Tsu, Hwa Yee	Biomedical Engineering		
Tuzov, Nikita Valeryevich	Statistics		
Venezuela, Otoniel	Computer Sciences		
Viswanath, Kannan	Management		
Wade, Jeremie Alan	Mechanical Engineering		
Wan, Fang	Mathematics		
Wang, Sarah Hong	Electrical & Computer Engr.		

## Spotlight on Staff

# The Graduate School Welcomes Three New Staff Members



Dana Werner



Katie Boyce



Deborah Hopkins

Three new positions have been created to assist the Graduate School meet its strategic goal of increased graduate enrollment and to increase graduate student participation in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding opportunities.

In May, Dana Werner stepped into a her new role at Purdue as the Graduate School's first director of graduate student recruitment services. Prior to that, Dana worked with staff recruitment and training in Purdue's Department of Human Resource Services. Dana earned her MBA from Ball State University with a concentration in human resources and her B.S. in business administration from the University of Arizona.

During the summer months, Dana began developing an image campaign for the Graduate School and initiated the development of a recruitment plan by surveying newly admitted students. The survey was designed to determine how students heard about the graduate school at Purdue, what factors were considered in their decision to apply and/or enroll, what information was most helpful in making their decisions, and how they initially researched and identified prospective schools. She also has been meeting with departments to discuss their recruitment experiences and needs, and has completed benchmarking several Big 10, peer, and selected institutions regarding their general recruitment activities. Dana's vision is to assist Purdue in achieving preeminence by promoting University-wide graduate school opportunities.

Katie Boyce joins the recruiting team as assistant director of

graduate student recruitment services. Katie comes to West Lafayette from St. Paul, Minnesota where she was a college recruitment coordinator for the Minnesota Department of Transportation

for 4 years. She has an M.Ed. with a major in human resource development from the University of Minnesota and a B.S. in human resource management from St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Katie came to Purdue because of its international reputation, and enjoys working in a campus environment. She believes this position is a good fit for her skills and interests.

Another new position was created and filled this summer by Deborah Hopkins. In July, Deborah became the first NIH coordinator for diversity in biological science. The position is funded by an NIH grant. Deborah has an extensive career at Purdue University spanning over 20 years experience, much of it in Human Resource Services. She started at Purdue in 1982 as the supervisor of the humanities library, and two years later, she transferred to Personnel, now known as Human Resource Services. She worked in Human Resource Services from 1984 to 2000. Then, she accepted a position with Consumer and Family Sciences as director of multicultural programs. When the position at the Graduate School opened up, she saw it as an "opportunity to grow and learn in a different capacity." Her objective is to forge good relationships with faculty and students so they have a good support system for the minority graduate students. As Deborah states it, "Retention is very important." ❖

### Best Wishes to Sharon Pitts on Her Retirement

Fifteen years to the day after she began at the Graduate School, Sharon A. Pitts will retire on September 19, 2003. Her responsibilities included faculty certification, assisting with Graduate Council documentation, working with the deans in the Graduate School, handling travel arrangements and the accompanying paperwork, ordering supplies, and helping out whenever and wherever needed. Sharon began with responsibilities in the admissions and administration areas of the Graduate School, and when an opportunity arose for her to advance to a Clerk V, Sharon was the natural choice. She accepted a position with responsibilities in the administration area and has assisted in that capacity since July 3, 2000. Sharon is a valued employee and will be missed by her colleagues. After her retirement, Sharon plans to spend time with her husband, Larry, her children, and their families. The Graduate School wishes Sharon all the best in the future.

Continuing the tradition of advancement within the Graduate School, Cindy Taylor who works as a records analyst in the Graduate School is advancing and will assume Sharon's duties when she departs. Cindy has been employed by Purdue University since 1988 and began at the Graduate School in October 2001. ❖

## Graduate Council New Members and Meeting Dates

Welcome to the new members of the Graduate Council:

George M. Bodner, Chemistry and Education  
Tantatape Brahmasrene, Economics, Purdue North Central  
Steven S. Broyles, Biochemistry  
Sharon A. Devaney, Consumer Sciences and Retailing  
Richard A. Hengst, Biology, Purdue North Central  
Thomas Kuczek, Statistics  
James M. Longuski, Aeronautics and Astronautics  
Gerald J. Lynch, Economics  
Susan J. Maller, Educational Studies  
Robert K. Swihart, Forestry and Natural Resources  
Karl E. Garman, Purdue Graduate Student Government

The Graduate Council is scheduled to meet during the 2003-04 academic year on the following dates:

- September 18
- October 16
- November 20
- January 15
- February 19
- March 25
- April 22.

Four Graduate Council task forces, appointed last year, have continued reviews throughout the summer. Thomas J. Downar, chair of the task force on Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs, and Jon A. Story, chair of the task force on the Postdoctoral Experience on Campus, presented interim reports to the council on May 1. The council looks forward to receiving final reports from these committees during the fall semester, as well as reports from the task forces on "Ethics in Graduate Education," chaired by Michael Forman, and "Resident Study Requirements," chaired by Jan P. Allebach.

*Purdue offers free access to statistical services*

## Statistics — A Key to the Future

*by Pransanth Karumanchi*

The viability of a formula to predict Wall Street behavior...the usefulness of a new cancer vaccine...the practicality of crash-proof automobiles.

These are just a few of the infinite applications which statistical data can help unravel. At Purdue — faculty, students, and staff have free access to just such services.

Statistical Consulting Service (SCS), the consulting wing of the Department of Statistics, Purdue University, provides statistical software and design consulting services for the University community. The SCS also helps its clients with statistical software problems and data analysis issues.

SCS provides assistance with the set up and running of a wide variety of statistical computing programs, including SAS, SPSS, Minitab, and S-Plus. Software consulting is available in Math G175 on a drop-in basis.

Experimental Design and Data Analysis Consulting provides assistance with all phases of research projects, for example:

- proposal preparation
- design of studies
- survey design
- data input strategies
- data import/export
- analysis of data
- interpretation of results
- presentation of results
- and other statistics or probability problems

This service is available during the fall, spring and summer semesters.

For further information regarding these services, please call Teena Selle at 49-45324 or check out our web page at <http://www.stat.purdue.edu/consulting/website>.

*Pransanth Karumanchi is a graduate student in the statistics department.*

## Purdue Graduate Student Government Aims for Preeminence

by Karl Garman

The past year has seen the most active graduate student population in Purdue's history. In the fall, the Graduate Student Association (GSA) constitution was modified to provide for a Graduate Student Senate. Shortly after, this body started meeting with representatives from all departments and programs in which graduate students are enrolled. In January, the senators voted to initiate the process of being recognized as an independent student government. Subsequently, the name of the organization was changed to Purdue Graduate Student Government to reflect this intended role change.

To get a sense of what graduate students were feeling, PGSG held an on-line poll in late April, asking the question, "Do you believe that the graduate student population at Purdue should be represented by Purdue Graduate Student Government, a legislative body independent of Purdue Student Government?" The response for the poll was overwhelming, with 843 graduate students voting "Yes" and only 53 voting "No." Ninety-four percent of the voters preferred a separate student government. The poll had a higher percentage turnout of eligible voters than the undergraduate student government received in their elections.

There is precedent for universities to have separate student governments for undergraduate and graduate students. Such is already the case at a majority of our peer institutions. Independent representation allows us to take our ideas and concerns directly to the administration. While

undergraduate students are more interested in programming and campus life aspects, graduate students tend to have an entirely different set of concerns. PGSG plans to address many of the issues that affect the quality of life of graduate students and their dependents.

Already, discussions that were initiated by PGSG have won vision insurance coverage for graduate assistants—a benefit that was not on the table before we became more organized. Among other issues we plan to tackle are the availability of dental insurance for graduate assistants, after-hours library access, parking, childcare services, and building a stronger graduate student community.

Check out our Web site at [www.purdue.edu/PGSG](http://www.purdue.edu/PGSG) to learn more about our organization and efforts. There, you will find the contact information for your departmental senator. If your department does not currently have a senator, we would like you to consider becoming one. You will find information on the Web site on how to do this. If Purdue is going to rise to "The Next Level," then graduate students have to be an integral part of the ascent. World-class universities have strong graduate student communities, and we must ensure that the quality of life for graduate students is a key priority at Purdue. Graduate students represent the interface between funding and research, and between professors and undergraduate courses that are taught. We have to work to ensure that graduate students are an essential part in—and a main beneficiary of—Purdue's rise to preeminence!

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*Karl Garman is the graduate student body president. He received his M.S. in Aerospace Engineering in May 2003, and is currently pursuing doctoral study in the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences.*

# Purdue's Black Graduate Association (BGA)

by Laron Walker

Purdue University's Black Graduate Association (BGA) was restored in 1999 with the commitment to facilitate programs that would strengthen the community of African American students in various disciplines across the University. Traditionally, its mission had been to encourage scholarly and professional attitudes, promote participation in advanced studies, facilitate activity interchange, and provide an opportunity for networking among members. In recent years, BGA has begun to shift its focus to cover a broader range of activities. A current goal of the organization is to foster relationships with outside entities so that it can expand its resources and presence. In order to achieve this goal, BGA has successfully developed relationships with the community, school and university administrators, and other organizations. An example of the benefits of these relationships is the assistance the organization has provided local schools by helping to develop programs that assist with the mentoring and tutoring of students. A second example comes from Purdue. On campus, BGA is active in sponsoring mentors for graduate and undergraduate students and contributing to the success of the university's recruitment and retention efforts.

Since its rebirth, BGA has grown to a membership of nearly 200 members. Programs are outlined each year to enhance the educational, professional, as well as the personal growth of students

during their tenure at Purdue. Last year, BGA activities included events that were social, cultural, and educational in nature. In addition, the organization participated in several community service events. The organization's main event is its Annual Awards Banquet. Held in April, this event honors its current members for their leadership, community service, scholarship, and membership. The event also strives to honor the academic achievements of African American undergraduates at Purdue. This was accomplished during this past year through a program that awarded book scholarships to two undergraduates who have been admitted to graduate programs.

If you would like to find out more about the Black Graduate Association, please visit our Web site. Located at <http://www.purdue.edu/bga>, it contains information about the organization, an on-line calendar of events and contact information for all of our registered members. Be sure to register with our site so that you can become a part of our e-mail list. An additional benefit to registering is that your contact information will be presented on-line for others to contact you. If you would like to e-mail the organization, direct your inquiries to [bga@expert.cc.purdue.edu](mailto:bga@expert.cc.purdue.edu).

*Laron Walker is president, Purdue Black Graduation Association, and a doctoral student in Electrical and Computer Engineering.*

## New Fee Deferment Procedures Established

Effective with the Fall 2003 semester, all graduate student staff experiencing temporary financial difficulties can defer the payment of their University fees until after they have received their first University paycheck. Previously, only new graduate staff were eligible for a fee deferment.

The following are key guidelines:

- The temporary fee deferment is available during the fall semester only.
- The amount of the fee deferment cannot exceed the cost of the graduate student assessment.
- The University will not charge graduate staff the normal \$30 deferment fee.
- Graduate students who hold fellowships are not eligible for the fee deferment.

Requests must be made, in person, to the Office of the Bursar (Hovde Hall, Room 14) during designated dates near the beginning of the semester.

## In Memoriam

### James Wilson — Purdue's First MARC/AIM Graduate

by Dwight E. Lewis



As there are great beginnings, there are also endings. Thus, it is with great sorrow that I report the passing of Mr. James Wilson, Purdue alumnus, 1980, Master of Science.

In the Spring 2003 issue of *The Graduate*, there were two articles about the Purdue MARC/AIM (Minority Access to Research Careers/Access Internally for Minorities) Program. Prior to the official start of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) MARC Honors Program over 23 years ago, Dr. Luther Williams (Ph.D. degree in Science, Purdue, 1968), then assistant provost at Purdue, wrote a white paper to the NIH to start the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Program. A short time thereafter funding of the MARC Program was appropriated. In 1978, the first summer of the NIH MARC Program, a colleague of Dr. Williams at Texas Southern University (the late Dr. John Session), who directed a MARC undergraduate program, called and asked if we would accept one of their talented students for the summer. We saw this as an opportunity to train a bright young scientist, and because of the outstanding job Mr. Wilson did, the birth of Purdue's MARC/AIM Program in the summer of 1980 was assured.

Subsequent to employment in Dr. Williams' laboratory at Washington University in St. Louis, the University of Colorado and Clark-Atlanta University, for 15 years, James worked full-time running a bioscience research laboratory at Clark-Atlanta University. At the time of his passing, he was an ordained minister and was working toward the Doctor of Divinity degree. As a dialysis patient himself for over 20 years, James established and directed a not-for-profit organization called the Dialysis and Transplantation Support Services Center, Inc. in Atlanta. Through this organization, he educated and served hundreds of people struggling with the same chronic disease.

In the beginning there was James Wilson, and Purdue had the first summer program at a Big Ten university. Currently, over 750 students have participated in Purdue's MARC/AIM Program, and the other Big Ten schools now have summer programs. What a fitting legacy for an extraordinary man who spent his life in service to others.

*Dwight E. Lewis is director of minority programs for the Graduate School.*

## Calendar

- Sept. 22 Last day to cancel a course assignment without a grade, for course additions, change of level or change of pass/not-pass option
- Sept. 23 Last day for grade correction for spring semester 2002-03 and 2003 summer session
- Sept. 23 6:00-7:30 p.m. ME 261  
NSF Seminar  
Current NSF Fellows will present their experiences on applying for and receiving an NSF fellowship, including: the process they used in preparing and submitting an application, what they found helpful including resources available and resources utilized, problems they may have encountered and how they resolved the problems
- Sept. 30 6:00-7:30 p.m., STEW 320  
Professional Development, Career Strategies Workshop
- Oct. 3 Last day to declare candidacy for degree for December graduation
- Oct. 8 8:30-9:30 a.m.  
Carver Fellowship Competition Announcement (GEA Deans)  
Request for nominations from Schools
- Oct. 8 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
Chappelle Fellowship Competition Announcement (GEA Deans)  
Announcement to heads of departments
- Oct. 8 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
Kruhe Fellowship Competition Announcement  
Request nominations from heads of eligible departments
- Oct. 8 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
Puskas Fellowship Competition Announcement  
Competition announcement to eligible Romanian students
- Oct. 10 Reports of unsatisfactory work are to be issued as of this date
- Oct. 13-14 October Break
- Oct. 15 Fellowship training  
Time and location to be determined
- Oct. 17 Last day for students who register for "exam only" to submit a positive *Report of the Final Examination* and a *Thesis Receipt*, or registration will be revised to research registration.
- Oct. 17 Last day for students who register for "degree only" to submit a *Thesis Receipt*, or registration will be revised to research registration. (Does not apply to nonthesis master's students).

Oct. 22 Second Eight-Week Courses Begin

Oct. 28 6:00-7:30 p.m., STEW 214D  
Professional Development, Career Strategies Workshop

Oct. 29 Last day a course assignment may be cancelled (with passing or failing grade)

Oct. 29 Last day, under extenuating circumstances, for course additions, change of level or change of pass/not-pass option

Oct. 31 4:30-5:00 p.m.  
A. H. Ismail Interdisciplinary Travel Grant Competition Deadline

Nov. 11 Deadline for pending incomplete grades to become failing grades

Nov. 20 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
A. H. Ismail Interdisciplinary Travel Grant Competition Awards  
Notification of competition results

Nov. 26-29 Thanksgiving Vacation

Dec. 6 Last day for students to pass the final examination

Dec. 8 Final examination reports must be received **for all graduating students** by the Graduate School, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG). Students for whom a final report is not received will not be able to graduate in December. (Final examination reports are not required for nonthesis master's students in graduate departments with approved alternative graduation criteria).

Dec. 12 One bound plus one unbound copy of the doctoral dissertation must be deposited in the Thesis/Dissertation Office, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG). (The unbound copy will be sent to University Microfilms International for microfilming). Only one bound copy of a master's thesis is to be deposited in the Thesis/Dissertation Office. Master's and Ph.D. candidates with "Confidential" theses/dissertations must also submit their departmental copies. Deposit appointments can be made by calling (765) 494-2600 or by e-mail to [markj@purdue.edu](mailto:markj@purdue.edu).

Dec. 13 Classes end

Dec. 15 *Thesis Receipt* must be delivered to the Graduate School, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG).

Dec. 15-20 Exam Schedule Begins

Dec. 20 Semester Ends

Dec. 21 Commencement (Division 1) 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 21 Commencement (Division 2) 2:30 p.m.

Dec. 23 Grades due to the Office of the Registrar

Jan. 10 Last day to submit a positive *Report of the Final Examination* to register for "degree only." (A *Thesis Receipt* must be submitted by March 7, 2004).

Jan. 10 Last day for a plan of study to be received by the Graduate School to graduate in May.

Jan. 12 Classes begin

Jan. 16 4:00-4:30 p.m.  
Carver Fellowship Nomination Deadline  
Deadline for submission of nominations to the Graduate School

Jan. 20 6:30-7:30 p.m., STEW 214A,B,C,D  
Grant Writing Workshop  
Professor Peter Dunn, Interim Associate Vice Provost for Research, will conduct an instructional workshop on grant writing for graduate students.

Feb. 13 4:30-5:00 p.m.  
Chappelle Fellowship Nomination Deadline  
Deadline for submission of nominations to the Graduate School

Feb. 13 4:30-5:00 p.m.  
Kruhe Fellowship Nomination Deadline  
Deadline for submission of nominations to the Graduate School

Feb. 13 4:30-5:00 p.m.  
Puskas Fellowship Nomination Deadline  
Deadline for submission of nominations to the Graduate School

Feb. 21 Last day to declare candidacy for degree for May graduation.

Mar. 4 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
Chappelle Fellowship Award Notification  
Notification of competition results

Mar. 4 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
Kruhe Fellowship Award Notification  
Notification of competition results

Mar. 4 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
Puskas Fellowship Award Notification  
Notification of competition results

Mar. 31 4:30-5:00 p.m.  
Incentive Grant Nomination Deadline  
Deadline for submission of nominations to the Graduate School.❖

The Graduate  
Purdue University  
Young Graduate House, Room 160  
151 S. Grant Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47906-3560

The Graduate School unveiled a new Web site on September 15. The photo below is one of three campus scenes that visitors to the Web site may see. Check it out at [www.purdue.edu/GradSchool](http://www.purdue.edu/GradSchool).



### *Let Us Hear from You!*

We're proud of Purdue graduate students and their accomplishments and want to share their success stories in this newsletter. Please inform us of graduate student workshops or activities, recent awards or any special recognitions, promotions, and/or professional achievements. Feel free to nominate a colleague or student who is outstanding in leadership, teaching, or research to be featured in *The Graduate*. E-mail: [contreni@purdue.edu](mailto:contreni@purdue.edu)

Send correspondence to: John J. Contreni, Interim Dean  
Purdue University  
Young Hall, Room 160  
151 S. Grant Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47906-3560

*Purdue is an equal access/equal opportunity institution.*