SELF-ASSESSMENT
SUMMARY OF GOALS AND ACTIVITIES
NCSU – COMPUTER SCIENCE

Condition #1: *The right people apply for doctoral study.*
Condition #2: *The right applicants are admitted as doctoral students*
Condition #3: *Students and faculty form productive working relationships*
Condition #4: *Students experience social support from fellow students*

Conditions	Goals /Activities	Timeline

#1.	Goal: Have the best national and international students apply to our program.
	Activities:
	  1. Spread the word, on what NCSU has to offer, to international colleagues.
	  2. Make sure our senior UG students know about the strengths of our graduate program.
	  3. Use regional Newsweek advertising for both UG and Graduate programs.
	  4. Have our students, primarily out-of-state and international PhD students, talk up Computer Science, NCSU, and the professional opportunities available to our PhD students and in the area.
		1. Ongoing.
		
		2. Ongoing.
		
		3. December 2006
		
		4. Ongoing.

#2.	Goal: Admit the students who will do well in Computer Science at NCSU and get these students to matriculate here.
	
	  1. The Admissions Committee looks carefully at PhD applications, and considers the school, the statement of purpose, the grades, the degree program, reference letters, and anything else that seem relevant, like project or work experience. We admit those considered to be high quality and capable of doing well in our program; the best students in this group are awarded TAs.
	  2. Increase the number of TAs we can award to entering students by moving second and third year students to RAs sooner. This requires more research funding obtained by the faculty.
	
	Goal: Improve our acceptance rate for supported students.
	
	1. We (DGP and faculty) personally contact all of the supported students and make substantial efforts to get them to accept.
	2. Continue our highly successful four-day spring recruiting and visitation for US students.
		1. Ongoing
		
		2. Two to three years as junior faculty become more established
		
		1. Ongoing
		
		2. Ongoing

#3.	Goal: Help establish positive, productive and congenial relationships between PhD students and faculty.	

	1. TA positions are assigned to promote productive student-faculty relationships. Many advisee/advisor relationships develop out of the deliberate assigning/matching of TAs and professors with similar research interests.
	2. For dysfunctional advisor/advisee relationships, the DGP gets involved and works out alternate advising relationships. This has been successful but unusual.
	
	Goal: All incoming PhD students should be paired up with a professor and have a plan for research.
	Activities:
	   1. Involve graduate faculty in the recruitment process by showing them specific folders that would be of interest to them.
	   2. Have faculty talk to incoming US students before they accept admission to NC State.
	   3. For international students, make sure that interested faculty phone candidates before offers are made.
		1. Ongoing
		
		2. Ongoing
		
		1.Ongoing.
		
		2.Ongoing.
		
		3. By February 2007.

#4.	Goal: Provide support within each research lab so that students work well together, are cooperative and friendly, and socialize outside the office as well. 1. This is the standard mode for most research labs. Since we are now in one building, help the students realize how this works for all the labs and smaller groups. Goal: Increase social interaction among all of the graduate students. 1. Monthly breakfasts with all of the graduate students, faculty, and staff, paid for out of departmental funds. 2. Graduate Student Association regular meetings and pizza parties. 3. An opening social the first Friday of classes for all students and immediately after a required meeting for new students. Goal: Provide a social climate to encourage women to apply to our program, make those already in the program comfortable, and provide them with an environment in which to succeed. 1. Continue to support our Women in Computer Science (WICS) organization. 2. Give special attention to female applicants and assign a female graduate student and female faculty person to mentor each accepted PhD female student.	1. Ongoing 1. Ongoing but new this year. 2. Ongoing but restarted last fall. 3. Ongoing 1. Ongoing 2. Ongoing and February 2007