

**SELF-ASSESSMENT - SUMMARY OF GOALS AND ACTIVITIES
NCSU - PSYCHOLOGY**

- 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.	<p>Add materials to our FAQ web pages, to better clarify our department specializations.</p> <p>Completely "renovate" our departmental web presence, so that information on our programs is more easily located, including interesting presentations of the faculty's current research activities.</p>	<p>Spring 2007</p> <p>Spring 2007</p>
#2.	<p>Goal: Establish system for better tracking of doctoral students' performance and progress, including:</p> <p>A. Create new Curriculum Codes, so that university data can be used to track students in our five specific specialty areas, rather than requiring manual data-processing;</p> <p>B. Add explicit consideration of time in program, and time to reach specific milestones, to the Annual Review of Graduate Student Progress;</p> <p>C. Use new data, as appropriate, to selectively "shape" admissions decisions for each specialization (i.e., do certain characteristics of students improve or delay their rate/time of completion?).</p> <p>Increase graduate student stipends for TAs. (RA stipends typically "move" as TA stipends move, although at a \$1-6k/yr higher level.) Higher stipends should increase the number of highly-qualified students who accept an offer of admission. Discuss such increases with college and university administrators.</p> <p>Improve the diversity of student population by increasing the number of men (especially minority men) who accept admission into the program. Discuss possible recruitment options with faculty in the two concentration areas having especially low enrollment of male students.</p>	<p>Fall 2006</p> <p>Spring 2007 and continuing</p> <p>Spring 2008 and continuing</p> <p>Fall 2007, if resources permit</p> <p>Fall 2007 and continuing</p>

<p>#3.</p>	<p>Increase the number of students supported by Research Assistantships, so that the numbers of RAs and TAs reach approximate parity (30-35 each). Encourage faculty to submit more proposals for research support.</p> <p>Increase the stipends for RAs and TAs, so that supported students do not need to take additional off-campus work that detracts from their research interaction with faculty. Enforce existing rule against accepting extra work, beyond departmental support.</p> <p>Develop a "course" or workshops to assist new TAs in putting together teaching materials and learning instructional skills, so that serving as a TA is seen not as an overwhelming task, nor as involving an "either-or" competition with research activity.</p>	<p>Fall 2007 and continuing</p> <p>When resources permit</p> <p>Spring 2007 – Spring 2008</p>
<p>#4.</p>	<p>Encourage increased faculty involvement in departmental social activities organized by our graduate-student organizations, as a means for modeling the importance of creating and maintaining social and professional ties.</p> <p>Develop dedicated area for a graduate-student common room, including mailboxes, computer/web access, and adequate space for reading and informal socialization. Effort will start as plans for anticipated new building get underway.</p>	<p>Fall 2006</p> <p>Fall 2007 and continuing</p>