UGS has undertaken the ambitious task of summarizing all data and trends relevant to each of our doctoral programs, with the intent of sharing this data with program administrators on an annual basis. These program summaries will contain important information on graduate student headcounts, fellowships and assistantships received, and graduate student attrition, for each of our doctoral programs. The doctoral program coordinators, along with the Chairs/Directors and Deans, will shortly receive the summaries for 2012. Our hope is that the data provided will promote internal discussions on program growth and help the administrators develop strategies to meet program-specific goals in enrollment, graduation rates, etc.

The summaries also contain a section, which needs program administrators’ input on goals for the coming year. I wish to see our graduate committees actively engaged in a discussion of these summaries. During Fall ’12, I will schedule meetings with individual programs to discuss the program-specific trends.

I look forward to working with you closely as we continue to excel in our doctoral programs.

Thank you,

Thesis and Dissertation Form Changes

In a continued effort to streamline the dissertation and thesis process for students, faculty, and staff, the University Graduate School is eliminating the D6/M4 (dissertation/thesis defense report) and D7/M5 (final approval of dissertation/thesis) forms beginning summer 2012. The “Final Electronic Thesis or Dissertation (ETD) Approval” form has been redesigned to serve as a final approval of the dissertation/thesis by the committee.

From this point forward, thesis and dissertation students need only submit a D5/M3 (preliminary approval of dissertation/thesis and request for oral defense) before their defense and the Final ETD Approval form after their defense in order to complete their thesis or dissertation requirement. D6/M4 and D7/M5 forms already submitted will be processed during the summer transition period.

Graduate Program Contact Information

Graduate Admissions is currently updating their records and requires your assistance in identifying the person responsible for the graduate program in your area (if this will be changing between now and fall and you know who will be responsible beginning in fall please provide that name as well). If someone else is responsible for graduate certificates make sure to include this information. This will ensure that prospective students are referred to the appropriate individual as well as help us maintain accurate information on our website and within the Pantherson system. Please send all updates to Nanett Rojas (rojasn@fiu.edu) by Friday, June 29th, 2012.

External Fellowship Recipient Information

Units with incoming or continuing students who will be funded via external fellowships beginning this fall, should contact Arie Spirgel (arie.spirgel@fiu.edu) from the Division of Research to help ensure that they receive their waivers and stipend.