

# Doctoral Education Work Group Meeting #1 – 12/12/11

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## Discussion Summary

- Introduction and Charge
  - The doctoral education committee is charged with re-envisioning how KU funds doctoral education in order to be more competitive in recruiting quality students. The committee will accomplish this by examining KU's current method(s) for funding, reviewing models at other institutions, and determining what we do well and what should be changed.
    - *Why convene this committee now?* It is important to examine doctoral funding models as the KU Core curriculum is being developed. Also, our doctoral programs are what make us a research institution, so to elevate our profile we must examine doctoral funding.
    - *What should the outcome of this committee be?* A report to the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Senior Vice Provost of Academic Affairs recommending a model or models for doctoral funding.
  
- Work Group Identifies Problems to Solve in Doctoral Funding
  - Mechanics and policies
  - Timing
  - Amount of money
  - # of GTA positions that we want
  - # of GRA positions that we want
  - How could GTA and GRA positions be strategically combined?
  - How do tuition waivers work at KU?
  - What is the difference between university/school/department policies?
  - Rates – some flat and some gradations
  
- If this Work Group Were Wildly Successful...
  - Core themes in the work group's wild success story:
    - Certainty of a plan for a 5 year funding package for doctoral students
    - Provide quality research opportunities
    - Ensure alignment between quality faculty that can provide mentoring for quality students (fit between numbers and fields)
    - Positive impact on overall stature of the university and its reputation including how our quality graduate students are going to change the world because of their quality education and become more visible, both nationally and internationally
    - More success in recruiting students we want
    - Good time to degree
    - No retention issues