



**Council of Graduate Schools**

*Advocacy, Research, and Innovation*

# **The Public Policy Environment for Graduate Education**

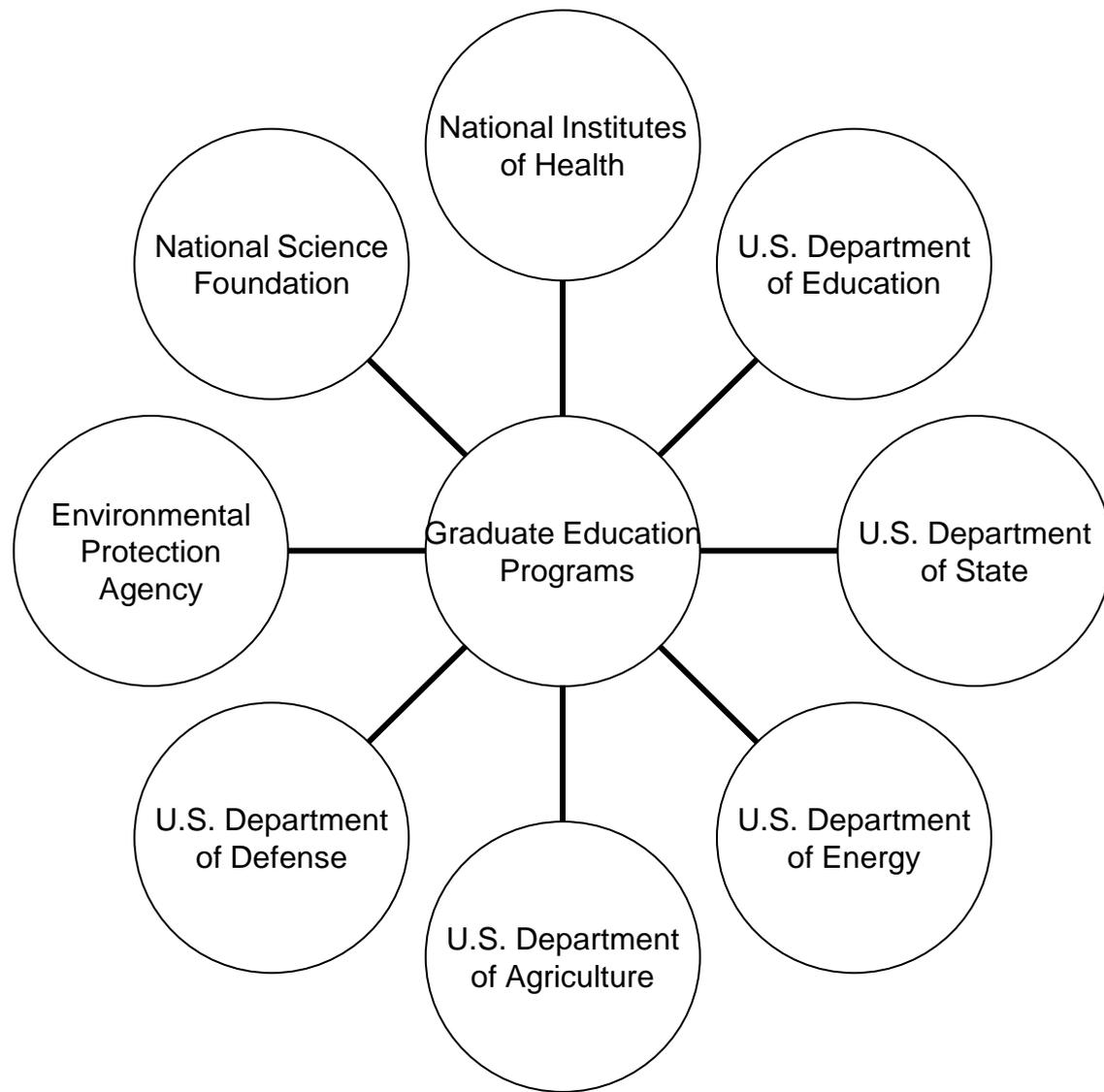
**Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools**

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**Patty McAllister**

**Vice President, Government Relations & External Affairs**

**Council of Graduate Schools**





# Recent Federal Policies that Impact Graduate Education

- Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 2008
- Student Financial Aid Reform – 2010
- Reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act

## Proactive Efforts to Influence Public Policies

### Impacting Graduate Education:

- CGS Policy Reports – 2007-2010





# Higher Education Act

- The current reauthorized HEA is composed of eleven Titles:
  - Title I: General Provisions
  - Title II: Teacher Quality enhancement
  - Title III: Institutional Aid
  - Title IV: Student Assistance
  - Title V: Developing Institutions
  - Title VI: International Education Program
  - Title VII: Graduate and Postsecondary Improvement Programs
  - Title VIII: Additional Programs
  - Title IX: Amendments to Other Laws
  - Title X: Private Student Loan Improvement
  - Title XI: Studies and Reports





# Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act

- Major Themes:
  - Greater transparency in college costs
  - New reporting and disclosure requirements
  - Student financial aid reform
  - Numerous new programs





# HEA—New Requirements

- College Affordability and Transparency lists on ED website
- State higher education spending charts to show trends in state higher education spending
- “Maintenance of effort” requirement for states to ensure they maintain a certain level of funding for higher education—tied to College Access Challenge Grant fund
- “Net Price” calculator that institutions will be required to post on their websites
- “Multi-year tuition calculator” to help parents and students estimate cost of tuition over future years





# New Reporting and Disclosure Requirements

- Data on Completion and Graduation Rates
- Peer-to-peer File-sharing
- Text book cost containment
- Public disclosure of transfer of credit policies





# HEA – Student Financial Aid Reform

- Pell Grants—increases to maximum award; available year-round
- PLUS loan deferment for graduate students for 6 months
- Perkins Loan Limits increased for graduate students
- Loan forgiveness for service in areas of national need





# Title VII Graduate Education Programs

## Jacob K. Javits Program:

- Requires Javits Fellowship Board include representatives from HBCUs and HSIs
- Pegs Javits stipend level to match NSF's Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF)
- Reauthorizes program, authorized appropriations of up to \$30 million annually for FY 09-FY 14
- Allows interruption of study due to designated reasons for up to 12 months with no paid stipend





# Title VII Graduate Education Programs

## Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Needs (GAANN) Program:

- Nursing designated as area of national need
- Pegs stipend level to match NSF's GRF
- Authorized appropriations of up to \$35 million annually FY 09-FY 14
- Specifies both Master's and Doctoral programs are eligible





# New Programs and Studies

## Master's degree program at HBCUs

- Eligible fields include STEM and other fields where African American students are under-represented
- Funds may be used for fellowships, faculty professional development and other things
- Authorization levels are “such sums as may be necessary” for FY 09-FY 14





- Master's degree program at PBIs
  - Five institutions eligible for program
  - Same criteria as HBCU program
  - Authorization levels are “such sums as may be necessary” for FY 09-FY 14





# New Programs (cont'd)

- Title V: Promoting Post-baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans:
  - Eligible institutions are HSIs that offer post-bac certificates or programs
  - Funds may be used for outreach, mentoring, fellowships, and expansion of graduate programs also construction
  - \$11.5 million per year appropriated for FY 10-FY 14





# New Programs (cont'd)

- Patsy Mink Fellowship Program:
  - Provides fellowships to minorities and women seeking doctoral degrees who plan to enter the professoriate
  - At least 30% of funds would be reserved for HBCUs, HSIs or consortia with at least one MSI
  - Fellows must agree to begin employment in the professoriate within 3 years of receiving degree
  - Failure to comply results in repayment of loan with interest
  - No appropriation





## New Programs (cont'd)

- Graduate Fellowships to Prepare Faculty in High Need Areas at Colleges of Education
- Partnership Grants for Teacher Residency Programs
- Capacity for Nursing Students and Faculty





# Studies and Reports

- GAO Report on Employment of Postsecondary Education Graduates
- Study of the Impact of Student Loan Debt on Public Service





# Health Care and Education Affordability Act

- Shifts all lending from the bank-based Federal Family Educational Loan (FFEL) program to the Direct Loan program operated by ED
- \$61 billion in savings over 10 years supports increases to Pell Grant program, \$2.5 billion for HBCUs and HSIs, and \$1.5 billion for Income-Based Loan Repayment.



# Reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act

- Enacted in 2007
- Implemented many recommendations from the NAS report “Rising Above the Gathering Storm”
- Reauthorization In Progress



# America COMPETES Act Graduate Education Provisions – 2007

- Increased funding authorization for Graduate Research Fellowships (GRF) and Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training program (IGERT) at NSF
- New Professional Science Masters (PSM) program at NSF, to provide grants to institutions of higher education to create or improve PSM programs. New graduate fellowship program at the Department of Energy
- New program at the Department of Education to fund the development and implementation of part-time Master's degree programs in math, science, or critical foreign language education for current teachers, and full-time Master's degree programs in teaching for current STEM field professionals.





# NSF Reauthorization—House bill

- Major themes:
  - Broadening Participation of women and under-represented groups in STEM disciplines
  - Fostering research partnerships between academia and industry
  - Increasing support for high-risk, high-reward research
  - STEM undergraduate and graduate education





# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Graduate Education

- Competitive grants to implement or expand Master's and doctoral level STEM education
- Preparation for diverse careers: academia; industry; government
- Development and implementation of PFF
- Creation, improvement, expansion of Science Master's degree programs





# Proactive Efforts:

- Annual CGS Policy Reports since 2007
  - Graduate Education: The Backbone of American Competitiveness and Innovation
  - Graduate Education and The Public Good
  - Broadening Participation in Graduate Education





# Commission on the Future of Graduate Education in the U.S.

Report provides an empirical basis to support the assumption and provide policy recommendations about the role of graduate education in ensuring our continued national prosperity.



# Commission Members

## Corporate Leaders

- Thomas Connelly, DuPont
- Roger Ferguson, TIAA-CREF
- Stanley Litow, IBM
- Richard Parsons, Bank of America
- Ronald Townsend, Battelle
- John Seely Brown, Xerox

## University Leaders

- Gene Block, UCLA
- Ronald Mason, Jackson State University
- John Wiley, University of Wisconsin
- Scott Bass, American University
- Suzanne Ortega, University of New Mexico (Vice-Chair)

## University Leaders (cont'd)

- Karen DePauw, Virginia Tech
- Jeffery Gibeling, University of California Davis
- Patrick Osmer, Ohio State University
- William Russel, Princeton (Chair)
- Liora Schmelkin, Hofstra University
- Susan Stites-Doe, College at Brockport, SUNY
- James Wimbush, Indiana University

## Ex Officio Members

- Kurt Landgraf, ETS
- Debra Stewart, CGS





# What are the key issues that will be addressed in the report?

- Projected trends for doctoral and master's degree holders.
- How close are we to producing the right numbers?
- What are our areas of vulnerability?
- How is the rest of the world responding?
- What actions are needed and what are the opportunities to improve?





# Actions Needed: Opportunities to Improve

## Universities

- Improve completion; graduate those we admit
- Reinvigorate old and build new master's programs on “hybrid” model
- Expand career pathways for Ph.D.s





# Actions Needed: Opportunities to Improve

## Industry

- Programs become stronger when industry interacts to shape goals, objectives, and outcome measures.
- Programs like the PSM illustrate successful partnerships between university, government, and industry.
- Industries should collaborate with universities to enlighten students on outcomes and potential career trajectories.





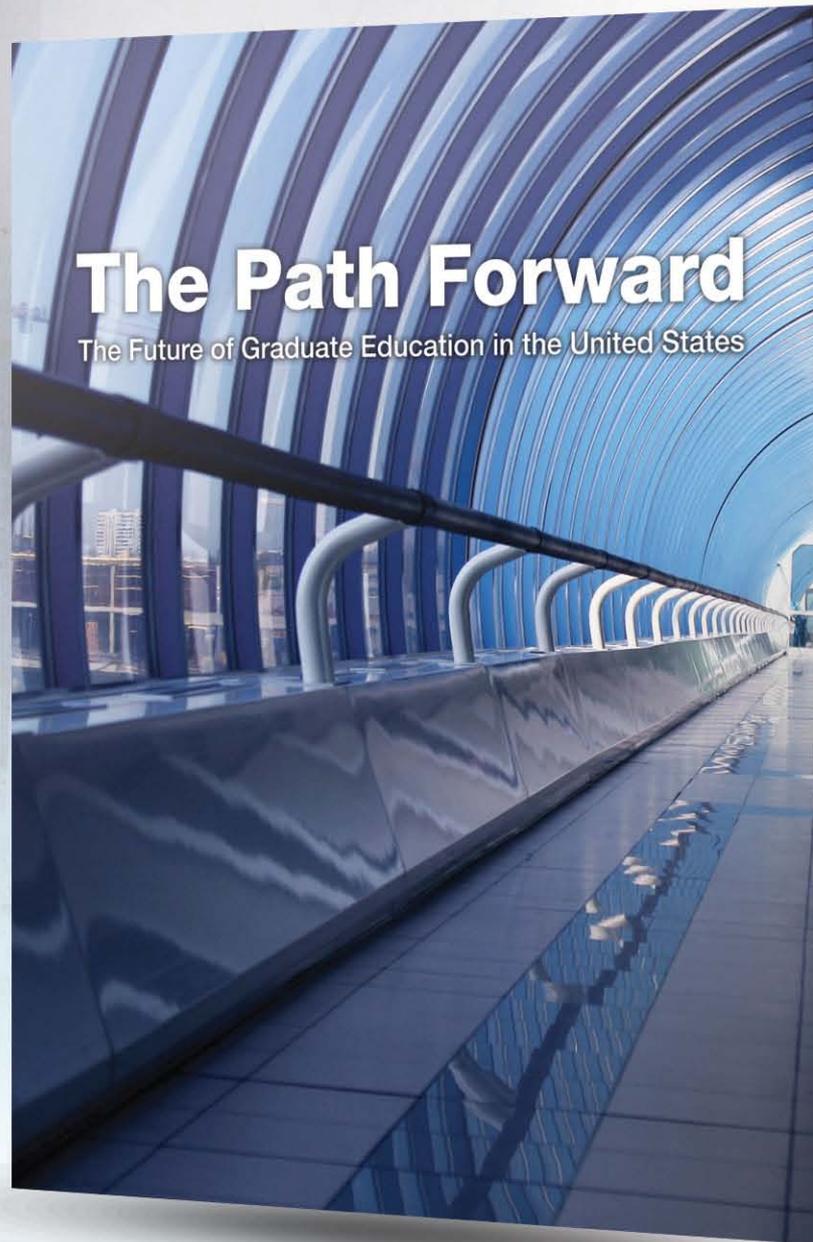
# Actions Needed: Opportunities to Improve

## Federal Government:

- Make graduate education a viable option for a growing number of U.S. citizens
- Increase support for graduate education through doctoral traineeships and innovative Master's programs
- Encourage international students to pursue graduate studies in the U.S.

## Next Steps:

- April 29, 2010 – Release Commission Report
- Communications Plan for the next 12 months
- Regional and State Emphasis



# Questions?

Contact: Patty McAllister

[pmcallister@cgs.nche.edu](mailto:pmcallister@cgs.nche.edu)

202-223-3791

