

## **A&S Graduate Ombudsperson Report for 2009**

### Activities for January through June 2009

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2 cases between January-June 2009:

Issues included strategies for continuation in William and Mary's graduate program and a dispute over termination of an internship.

The Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, the department's Director of Graduate Studies, and other faculty members were involved in discussions.

The cases were resolved; one student declined formal intervention.

### Activities for July through December 2009

Carey Bagdassarian, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry  
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Orientation session for new graduate students, August 2009.

Orientation session for new TAs and TFs—dealing with problem students, learning climate, August 2009.

Introduction of Ombudsperson position to Applied Science Graduate Students, September 2009.

Ex officio member of Committee on Graduate Studies, 4-5 semester meetings.

6 cases, involving four departments, were mediated by the Ombudsperson between July-December 2009:

Issues included clarification and definition of continuance requirements and qualifier examinations, faculty-student "tensions," potential career changes and needed discussions between faculty and student.

Time-scale for cases spanned from two meetings for a case to month-and-a-half-long consultations.

The Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, faculty in relevant departments, and the Dean of Undergraduate Studies were involved in 2 cases.

All cases were resolved.