

A&S Graduate Ombudsperson Report for 2008

ELIZABETH BARNES, Associate Professor, American Studies Program and Department of English,
elbarn@wm.edu

Activities for January through December 2008:

Orientation session for new A&S graduate students, August 2008.

Orientation session for new A&S TAs and TFs – dealing with problem students, learning climate, August 2008.

6 inquiries or issues involving A&S graduate students between January-December 2008:

Issues included: potential misconduct by a TA, hostile work environment between graduate students, dispute over termination of a graduate student in a department or program, concern over working relationship with advisor, health care policy infraction by a graduate student, grade dispute.

4 issues led to further discussion with faculty, the Director of Graduate Studies, and/or the Dean of Students office.

5 issues resolved to the satisfaction of the parties involved.

1 issue possibly still to be resolved.