Master's Education in a Changing International Landscape

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CGS Annual Meeting 2018

Master's Degree in U.S. Graduate Education

- Over the past decade the Master's Degree has become 80% of the Graduate Education Enterprise.
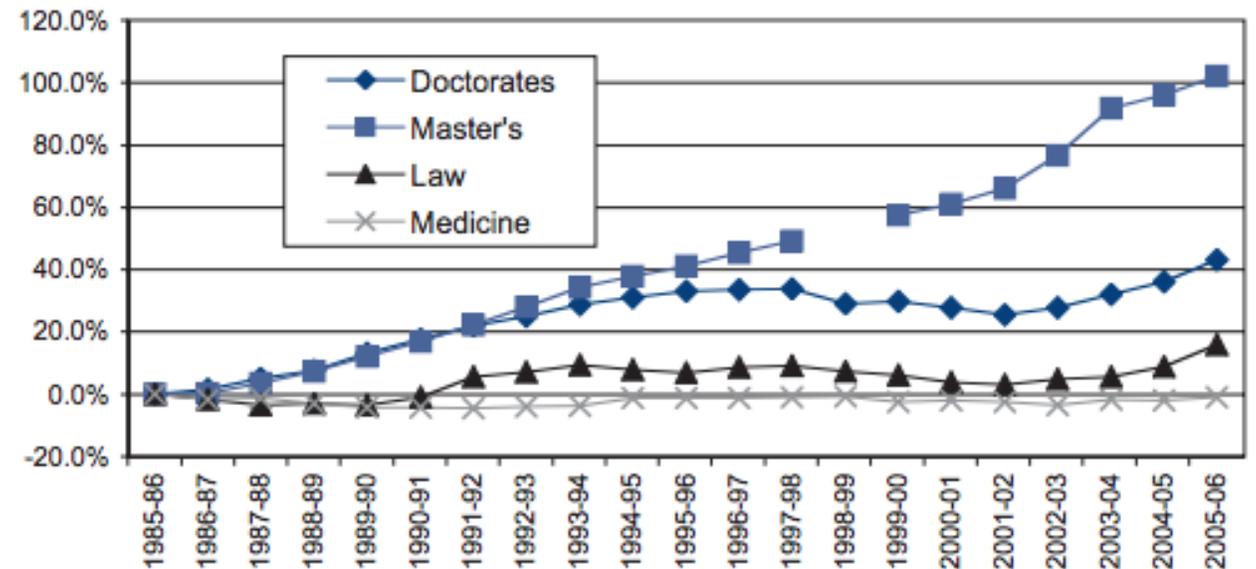
- Not a recent phenomenon.

Figure 9. Trends in total graduate degrees awarded by level, Fall 2007 to Fall 2017

Master's
Doctorate

300,000

150,000

0

2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017
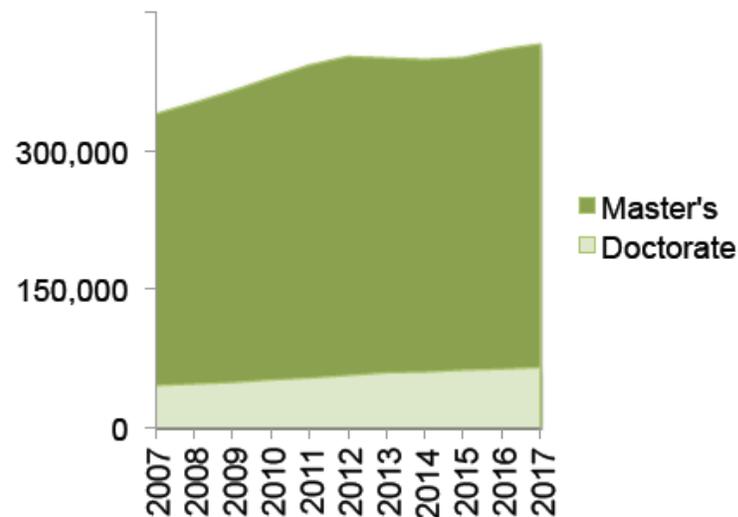
Note: Trends were developed based upon institutions that provided data for all years 2007 to 2017; therefore, the numbers of total degrees awarded do not match data in the tables.

Source: CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment and Degrees

Figure 2: Degree Trends in Graduate Education, Medicine and Law, 1985-86 to 2005-06 (percentage change from base year)
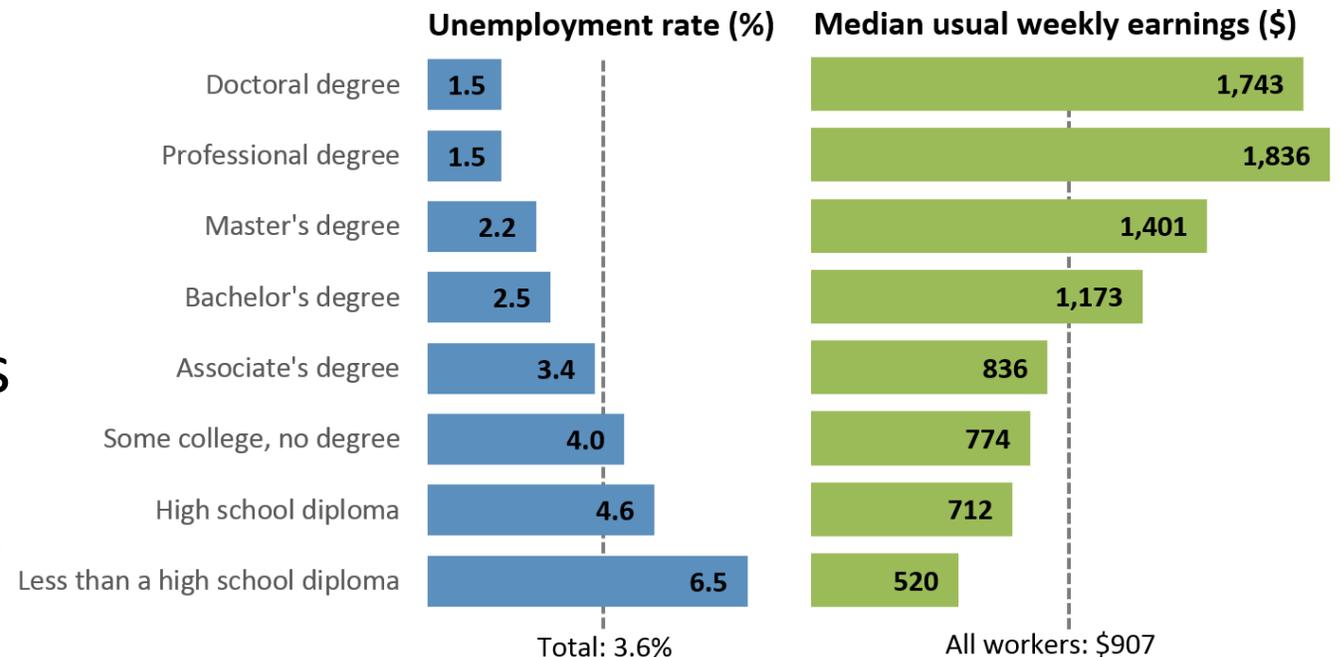
Doctorates
Master's
Law
Medicine

120.0%
100.0%
80.0%
60.0%
40.0%
20.0%
0.0%
-20.0%

1985-86 1986-87 1987-88 1988-89 1989-90 1990-91 1991-92 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1995-96 1996-97 1997-98 1998-99 1999-00 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05 2005-06

Note: Master's degree data not available for 1998-99.
Source: NSF, ABA, and AAMC

Master's Degree in U.S. Graduate Education

- Job market pressures

- Career path to management and higher salaries

- Mid 90's rise of the technology
  - Internet open for business

- Degree of entry for some careers
  - Health related professions
    - Speech Lang Pathology, Art Therapy, Nurse Anesthetist, OT, PT

- Enrollment led by MBA and MAT
  - "Cash cows" of graduate education

Unemployment rates and earnings by educational attainment, 2017

|	Unemployment rate (%)	Median usual weekly earnings ($)
Doctoral degree	1.5	1,743
Professional degree	1.5	1,836
Master's degree	2.2	1,401
Bachelor's degree	2.5	1,173
Associate's degree	3.4	836
Some college, no degree	4.0	774
High school diploma	4.6	712
Less than a high school diploma	6.5	520

Total: 3.6%   All workers: $907

Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Master's Degree in U.S. Graduate Education

- Job Market Pressures

- Emerging careers – interdisciplinarity and specialization
  - Professional Science Master's (PSM's)
  - Computer animation
  - Digital imaging
  - Healthcare Informatics
  - Human-computer Interaction
  - Robotics

Professional Science Master's with Concentration in Environmental Assessment
33 credit hours

1
Capstone

4
Professional Skills Courses

2
Science Electives
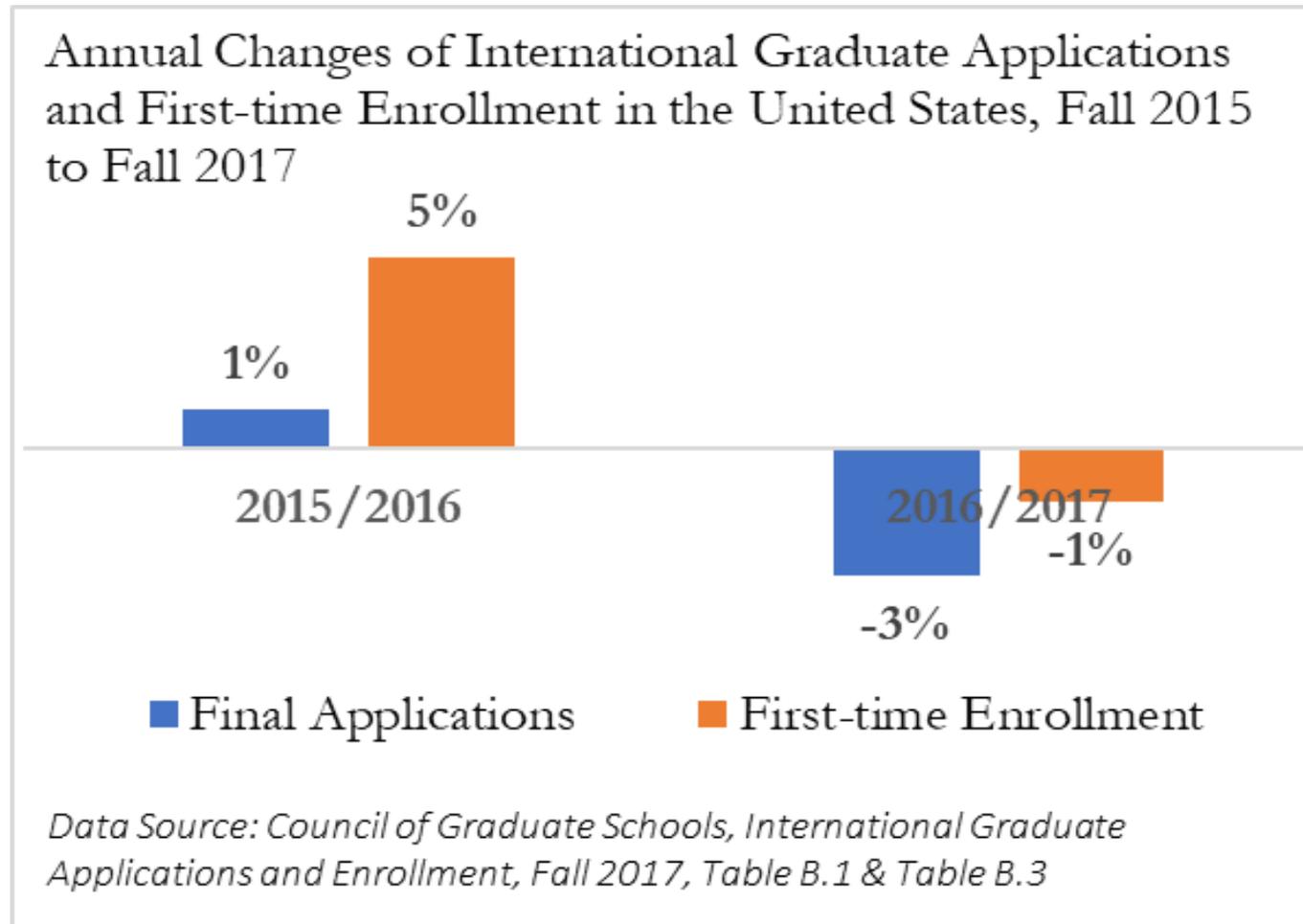
4 Science Core Courses
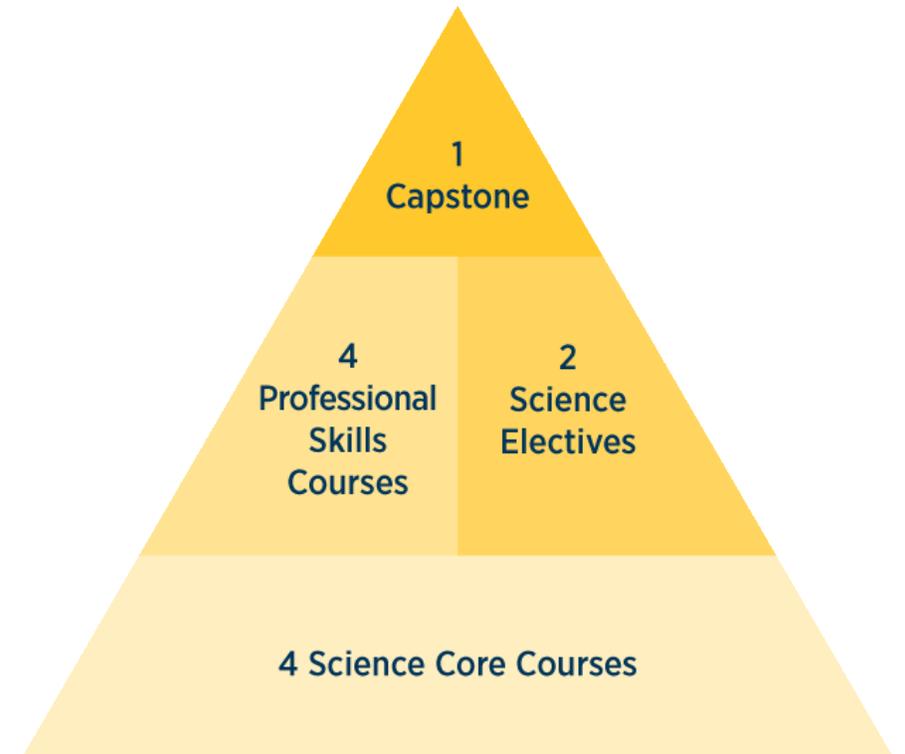
Changing U.S. Political and Social Environment

- "Foreign Students To Deal With Uncertainties Under New U.S. Immigration Policy" – Forbes
  - "anyone who remains in the United States past the date of their U.S. purpose (for their Visa) will start accruing unlawful presence in the U.S. which could ultimately lead to a maximum *ten year* re-entry bar. Most recently, the U.S. added another twist, announcing a one-year time limit for Chinese graduate science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) students to study in the United States.

- Fixed Maximum Terms for Student Visas? – Inside Higher Ed
  - "The Trump administration published notice on Wednesday that it intends to propose a new rule in fall 2019 establishing a maximum period of authorized stay for international students and other holders of certain nonimmigrant visas."

Changing U.S. Political and Social Environment

- Increasing incidences of harassment and racism toward international students
- At SIUE, an Incidence occurred at the downtown bus stop
  - An international student waiting for a bus when a local resident began verbally harassing her
  - The harassment continued through the time the student's bus arrived
  - The local resident followed the student to board the same bus
  - The bus driver seeing the ongoing harassment had the moral sense and courage to deny the local residence entry on to the bus
- Student from Telangana shot dead in the U.S. – The Hindu

Declining International Applications

Annual Changes of International Graduate Applications and First-time Enrollment in the United States, Fall 2015 to Fall 2017

- 2015/2016: Final Applications 1%, First-time Enrollment 5%
- 2016/2017: Final Applications -3%, First-time Enrollment -1%

Legend: ■ Final Applications ■ First-time Enrollment

Data Source: Council of Graduate Schools, International Graduate Applications and Enrollment, Fall 2017, Table B.1 & Table B.3

Declining International Applications

Table B.2: Annual Changes in Final International Graduate Applications by Field of Study, Fall 2012 to Fall 2017 Admission Cycles

	Fall 2012 to Fall 2013	Fall 2013 to Fall 2014	Fall 2014 to Fall 2015	Fall 2015 to Fall 2016	Fall 2016 to Fall 2017
Total	**2%**	**10%**	**3%**	**1%**	**-3%**
Arts & Humanities	1%	5%	1%	2%	-9%
Biological & Agricultural Sciences	-	-	2%	-5%	-5%
Business	1%	7%	2%	8%	-3%
Education	-2%	4%	4%	0%	-11%
Engineering	5%	12%	2%	-3%	-10%
Health Sciences	-	-	2%	-17%	-11%
Mathematics & Computer Sciences	-	-	9%	5%	-2%
Physical & Earth Sciences	-	-	-1%	6%	-6%
Public Administration & Services	-	-	-5%	-7%	-15%
Social & Behavioral Sciences	-	-	-4%	-3%	-1%
Other Fields	5%	4%	5%	14%	-2%

International Yield Rates are Up
(for some institutions)

	Fall 2016		Fall 2017	
	Doctorates	Master's & Certificate	Doctorates	Master's & Certificate
Aggregated Int'l Grad Application Acceptance Rates	16%	37%	17%	39%
Aggregated Int'l Yield Rates	46%	34%	46%	34%

First-Time Graduate Enrollment Down

Table C.9: First-Time Graduate Enrollment by Broad Field and Citizenship, 2007 to 2017

Broad Field	U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents			Temporary Residents		
	% Change, 2016 to 2017	Average Annual % Change, 2012 to 2017	Average Annual % Change, 2007 to 2017	% Change, 2016 to 2017	Average Annual % Change, 2012 to 2017	Average Annual % Change, 2007 to 2017
Total	**1.1%**	**1.6%**	**1.9%**	**-3.7%**	**4.7%**	**5.6%**
Arts and Humanities	-2.1%	-3.0%	-1.8%	-6.8%	2.2%	2.6%
Biological and Agricultural Sciences	1.4%	3.0%	4.0%	6.8%	2.0%	1.2%
Business	5.7%	4.2%	3.5%	-2.5%	-0.9%	3.1%
Education	-3.8%	-1.0%	-1.1%	-14.1%	-2.1%	-0.2%
Engineering	1.6%	2.2%	3.9%	-8.9%	3.6%	5.0%
Health Sciences	1.9%	4.0%	7.3%	-2.8%	2.4%	1.9%
Mathematics and Computer Sciences	17.2%	9.9%	9.3%	-3.4%	15.9%	15.4%
Physical and Earth Sciences	-3.5%	-0.3%	1.7%	-1.1%	-0.1%	1.1%
Public Administration and Services	-0.6%	1.4%	3.0%	9.2%	0.8%	3.3%
Social and Behavioral Sciences	-2.5%	-1.4%	-0.1%	-3.7%	2.3%	3.6%
Other Fields	3.0%	0.6%	-0.9%	-1.8%	5.3%	7.2%

Note: See Appendix D for the survey taxonomy.

Source: CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment and Degrees

SIUE Profile

- PUI; Large Masters Granting Institution
  - 50 Master's programs, EdD, DNP, 4 cooperative PhD programs with SIUC
    - Undergraduate Enrollment: 12,000
    - Graduate Enrollment: 2000
  - Top public, masters institution in Midwest for research expenditures
  - Mission
    - Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is a student-centered educational community dedicated to communicating, expanding and integrating knowledge. In a spirit of collaboration enriched by diverse ideas, our **comprehensive and unique array of undergraduate and graduate programs** develops professionals, scholars and leaders who shape a changing world.

Edwardsville, IL

- Typical Midwest town
  - Population 25,000
  - Main street was part of Route 66
  - Primarily a bedroom community for St. Louis
  - SIUE is the largest employer and is the primary driver of the local economy
  - Revitalized downtown

Main Street.   Edwardsville, Ill.

Seamless and Sustainable Support

- Initiative led by the Office of International Affairs
  - Requires Recruitment & Admissions, Student Success Center, and the community.
  - Enhance recruitment, yield, and retention through social and academic support
- Communication begins upon application from International Recruitment and Admissions, that includes information and offers of support services
- Upon enrollment, continued pre-arrival communications from International Affairs Advisor
  - Single point of contact to answer questions and concerns
  - At least two monthly communications

Seamless and Sustainable Support

- Pick-up and arrival support program;
  - Brief orientation
  - Assistance with housing check-in and other university procedures
  - Assistance with general needs
  - Single 24/7 contact for support to turn to the first days after arrival for any needs

- Retention
  - systematic outreach and communication throughout the first year
  - Provide academic and social support as needed

Sustainable and Seamless Support

- Ramp up the Global Ambassador Program
  - Student organization; pairs up "buddies" that meet twice a month to forge intercultural friendships to ease cultural transitions
- Ramp up the International Hospitality Program
  - Community families that "host" international students; provide social and cultural connections;

ICE Officer Incidence Spring 2017

- Immigration and Custom Enforcement Officers (ICE) showed up to an on-campus, university apartment in search of a student who had left the university six months earlier
  - ICE Officers did not notify campus police prior to showing up
  - ICE Officers flashed badges; insisted on searching the apartment without a warrant
  - The students. feeling intimidated, allowed the officers entry
  - They did not know they had the right to deny entry
  - They didn't know they could call campus police for support to preserve their rights; even if the ICE officers had a warrant, campus police would review it for validity and make sure the the warrant is executed within its limits

Legal Rights, Supports, and Safety Sessions

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

- Directed at both the university community and international students

- Legal counsel with expertise in immigration
  - Talked about international student's rights and who to contact for legal advice or support

- Campus police officer
  - Talked about calling campus police as a supportive resource
  - Talked about support for being safe on and off campus, such as calling for a campus escort after dark and using the RAVE Guardian App available through the university
  - Talked about bystander intervention – how to safely defuse or de-escalate a situation when someone is being harassed

Legal Rights, Supports, and Safety Sessions

- Continuing sessions addressing legal rights, legal contacts, personal safety, bystander intervention, and campus police support

- Administration committed to responding quickly to local and national events affecting international students

Discussion

- What strategies are your institutions implementing or considering to impact international recruitment and enrollment?

- What additional ways could we be supporting international students to improve success?