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## News Release

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### Eastern Illinois University Wins ETS/CGS Award for Innovation in Promoting Success in Graduate Education

Scottsdale, AZ – The third annual “ETS/CGS Award for Innovation in Promoting Success in Graduate Education: From Admission through Completion” was presented to Eastern Illinois University during the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS). The award is sponsored by CGS and Educational Testing Service (ETS). Dr. Robert Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School, accepted the award on behalf of Eastern Illinois University (EIU).

The award recognizes promising, innovative proposals to enhance student success and degree completion at the master’s or doctoral level, while promoting inclusiveness. The winning institution is selected based on the strength of its proposal to meet the award’s goals and to serve as a model for other schools; it receives a two-year, \$20,000 matching grant.

The winning proposal from Eastern Illinois University, “The Integrative Graduate Studies Institute” will offer a full-range of services designed to promote success in graduate education, including five integrative graduate mentoring programs. The programs will focus on distinct audiences, both undergraduate and graduate students, and will be evaluated on outcomes related to diversity, retention and completion rates, and other metrics.

“From pre-admission through to degree completion graduate students face many challenges and hurdles to success,” says David G. Payne, Vice President and COO of ETS’s Higher Education Division. “Eastern Illinois’ comprehensive proposal specifically addresses these challenges in a positive way and we congratulate them for their efforts on behalf of students.”

“Eastern Illinois University was the best of a very strong set of proposals, all of which showed the commitment that graduate schools have to promote student success in graduate programs through creative approaches” said Debra W. Stewart, CGS President. “CGS is exceptionally grateful for ETS’s continued support for graduate education as exemplified by this award.”

## **About ETS**

At ETS, we advance quality and equity in education for people worldwide by creating assessments based on rigorous research. ETS serves individuals, educational institutions and government agencies by providing customized solutions for teacher certification, English language learning, and elementary, secondary and post-secondary education, as well as conducting education research, analysis and policy studies. Founded as a nonprofit in 1947, ETS develops, administers and scores more than 50 million tests annually — including the *TOEFL*® and *TOEIC*® tests, the *GRE*® tests and *The Praxis Series*™ assessments — in more than 180 countries, at over 9,000 locations worldwide. [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)

## **About CGS**

The Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) is an organization of over 500 institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada engaged in graduate education, research, and the preparation of candidates for advanced degrees. Among U.S. institutions, CGS members award 92% of the doctoral degrees and 77% of the master's degrees.\* The organization's mission is to improve and advance graduate education, which it accomplishes through advocacy in the federal policy arena, research, and the development and dissemination of best practices.

\* Based on data from the 2010 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment and Degrees