How many of you have not encountered any difficulty in getting the graduate students that you need?

How many of you have found the graduate students who are a perfect fit to you and your research?
Graduate Students - Lifeblood of Research

- Good graduate students could magnify your research productivity by 2-4x.

- Bad students could suck up your energy and time with little or no return.
Recruitment – is it worth it?

- Recruiting good students is critical to starting and establishing a research program.
Murphy’s Law – Deal with It

HAVE FUNDS

NO GOOD PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AVAILABLE

GOOD PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AVAILABLE

NO FUNDS
IF IT'S GOOD TO HAVE GRAD STUDENTS,

IS HAVING NOT-SO-GOOD GRAD STUDENTS BETTER THAN NOT HAVING ANY GRAD STUDENT?
When there are good prospective students, do you recruit them and hope the funds will work out somehow?
Cast a Wide Net

- Get the word out.
  - Advertise your program and needs (website, professional societies, etc.).
  - Let faculty colleagues know of your needs.
- Recruit from as many places as you can.
- Consider students from other degree programs and/or promising undergraduates.
- Participate in or establish a summer research program.
CAPITALIZE ON EXISTING LINKAGES AND RELATIONSHIPS

WITH COLLEAGUES, INSTITUTIONS, FORMER STUDENTS, ETC.
Remember the Whole Picture

- Assistant professor = 3+-jobs-in-1
  - Research
  - Teaching
  - Service

- There is never enough of you - we all need a little help sometimes.
  - Department/college graduate student recruitment strategy (e.g., website, competitive assistantships, campus visits, connections and relationships, etc.).
  - Available resources (e.g., supplemental funding, assistance, etc.).
  - Trusted colleagues
Summary

- Graduate student recruitment – just do it!
- Murphy’s law of graduate student recruitment – deal with it.
- Cast a wide net.
- Capitalize on existing linkages.
- Use available resources to your advantage.
“You can’t always get what you want, but if you try sometimes you just might find you get what you need.”