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## **MEDIA ADVISORY: Virginia Council of Graduate Schools to Host Sixth Annual Graduate Student Research Forum and Reception**

Jan. 31, 2011 – The Virginia Council of Graduate Schools (VCGS) will host the Sixth Annual Graduate Student Research Forum on February 3 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the Library of Virginia in Richmond. The purpose of the forum is to showcase graduate student research and scholarship across the Commonwealth of Virginia. It also highlights the benefits of graduate education to the economic, social, and civic development of the Commonwealth. Attendees include members of the General Assembly and their staffs, other members of state government, industry representatives, faculty and administrators from across the Commonwealth, and the general public.

Almost 60 graduate students will present their research. Topics range from the impact of a reduction in Atlantic menhaden on Chesapeake Bay water quality to the impact of computer assisted instruction on early literacy development. Much of the research aligns with the priorities of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), demonstrating the critical link between university research and the economic development of the Commonwealth and the well-being of its citizens.

More information about VCGS, and the research forum, may be found at [www.vacgs.net](http://www.vacgs.net).

*The Virginia Council of Graduate Schools (VCGS) promotes the benefits of graduate education to the Commonwealth of Virginia. VCGS is comprised of 13 public colleges and universities from across Virginia: Christopher Newport University, the College of William & Mary, George Mason University, James Madison University, Longwood University, Norfolk State University, Old Dominion University, Radford University, the University of Mary Washington, the University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia State University, and Virginia Tech.*