

2. Technical / analytical abilities Graduates attain a level of technical / analytical ability and knowledge to function as professionals in their discipline.	Technical and analytical abilities directly manifest as research successes that can be judged at annual committee meetings, through presentations at meetings, by success of grant proposals, and through publication of peer-reviewed articles. Annual graduate committee meetings will assess technical and analytical skills that will be recorded on the "Grad Program Assessment Form" Employment or continuing education outcomes of program graduates will be compiled as evidence of quality of training.	Research successes are documented by students at annual committee meetings and will be compiled annually. Scientific research underpinning presentations, student-led grant applications, and manuscripts will be discussed at the SLOA meeting. Statistics relevant to technical / analytical abilities will be assessed on the Graduate Program Assessment Form and will be discussed. Employment statistics will be discussed at the SLOA meeting.
3. Independence Doctoral graduates demonstrate that they can independently identify a problem and devise appropriate methods for its solution, contributing original knowledge to that field. Graduates should have demonstrated the ability to develop new research ideas. Graduates will make significant contributions to the peer-reviewed literature.	Abilities to be a Ph.D.-level independent researcher will be assessed through comprehensive examination success rates and will be assessed on the "Grad Program Assessment Form". Dissertation defense quality and research results will be recorded via the "Grad Program Assessment Form". Doctoral graduates should have at least one first-authored publication ready for submission at time of defense. Our goal is 2-4+ publications, depending upon scope, and as defined by the committee.	Pass rates on comprehensive examinations will be compiled and discussed at the SLOA meeting along with statistics relevant to independence from the Graduate Program Assessment Form. Dissertation defense successes will be compiled and discussed at the SLOA meeting. Student publications will be compiled annually and discussed at the SLOA meeting.