

Vision

The Nicholas PhD: A program where *integrative understanding*, *leadership*, and *collaborative ability* are used by graduates to leverage their *core technical depth* to solve environmental problems and better understand our world through both conventional and unconventional pathways.

Elements of the Vision

Integrative Understanding ■

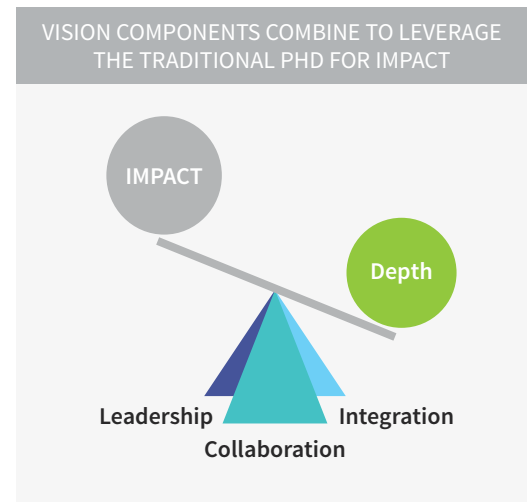
An ability to understand and synthesize various dimensions of complex concepts and problems.

Core Technical Depth ■

The defining features of a PhD are depth and expertise in the field; these should not be sacrificed.

Leadership + Collaborative Ability ■ ■

An understanding of and ability to work within, and lead teams of people of different disciplines, interests, and backgrounds.



Building the Vision: Priority Areas

COMMUNITY	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	CAREER GUIDANCE	DIVERSITY
Supports: Integrative Understanding	Supports: Core Technical Depth	Supports: Leadership	Supports: Collaborative Ability
SHORT TERM (2-YEAR) OPPORTUNITIES & PRACTICAL STEPS			
Encourage PhD-PhD student collaborations	Develop standardized, comprehensive handbooks for all programs	Build the PhD alumni network and integrate with the MEM network	Require RCR credits on diversity issues
LONG TERM (5+ YEARS) OPPORTUNITIES & PRACTICAL STEPS			
PhD student co-development of, and collaboration on, MEM projects Align PhD programs and MEM concentrations	Long term investment in administrative (DGSA) support	Leadership, internship or mentoring opportunities in PhD Programs Career center programming for non-academic careers	Promote diversity through hiring practices Emphasis on environmental justice