Two questions succinctly express the opportunities and challenges of graduate education:

1. What are the purposes of graduate education?
2. What steps should be taken to ensure that graduate education addresses important societal issues as well as the needs and aspirations of graduate students?

With these two questions I hope to generate conversations to examine graduate education at major research institutions. I will use the Report of the ACS Presidential Commission on Graduate Education in the Chemical Sciences as a point of departure for this first conversation.

Suggested readings:

Summary Report
of the ACS Presidential Commission on Graduate Education

Presenting the Report to the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology
WEBCAST: http://www.tvworldwide.com/events/pcast/130315/globe_show/default_go_archive.cfm?gsid=2229&type=flv&test=0&live=0
March 15, 2013

Better Learning Through Chemistry?
Science Magazine, February 1, 2013