

November 2007 Constituency Programs Update



Graduate School

Updated 11/29/07 by Erika Kreger

Graduate Students First Team's Half-Marathon Run Raises \$30K and Counting

On Sunday, Nov. 25, Sociology Professor **Bob Crutchfield** (in center of photo shown at left) and the Graduate Students First Team tackled the Seattle Marathon events in cold sunny conditions. Team members wore their Husky colors proudly and drew plenty of attention to the team and its \$100,000 challenge. Their enthusiasm was contagious. As **Richard Boyce**, a biomedical and health informatics graduate student, put it: "I love to run and I love the UW; what could be more fun than running for the UW?"

The 100-person team included staff, graduate students, and faculty from 45 different departments. They range in age from 20 to 64, with experience levels varying from first-timers to ultra-marathoners. Especially impressive were team members with significant health challenges—a cancer survivor, a walker with two artificial hips, a runner with a chronic kidney ailment—who completed the race. The variety and significance of the team members' research—on topics such as alternative energy, freshwater resource management, HIV transmission, and prevention of youth violence—reflects the diverse and vital work that fellowship dollars support.

So far, the team's fundraising efforts have brought in \$32,000 in gifts and pledges for the Graduate Students First Challenge Fund. They're optimistic that total will continue to rise as friends of UW respond to messages about the team's effort that were sent out during the week of Thanksgiving.

For more information and photos, [visit the team Web site:](http://www.grad.washington.edu/supporting/gs_students_first.htm)
http://www.grad.washington.edu/supporting/gs_students_first.htm



Smiling after the half marathon (L to R): Kyle Mandli (grad student, Applied Math), David Ketcheson (grad student, Applied Math), Bernard Deconinck (faculty, Applied Math), and Kristen Thyng (grad student, Mechanical Engineering)