Current Hat(s)

- Associate Professor
- Associate Department Head, Director for Graduate Studies in CS
- Vice-President for VALHEN
- Program Chair for Tapia 2014

perez@cs.vt.edu • http://perez.cs.vt.edu • @mapq
Joys of Administration

• Some good books
I. How did you get started in administration?

- Racial incident on campus created Taskforce on Race and the institution. Diverse group of employees were asked to participate. MPQ->Token latino.


- I became 2nd director of office, moved to Associate Dean; Recruitment was merged with my office when Director of Africana Studies left campus (wife was Dir of Recruitment at Grad School)

- 3 years later, came back to dept. and was asked to become Assoc. Dept. Head in charge of grad program.
2. What is your daily routine like?

- 2-3 hours of admin work per week
- 1.5 hours teaching + 1.5 office hours + 3 hours of research/students
- Weekly Dept H. + Assoc. heads meeting; Monthly Executive Committee meeting
- Lead Dept Committee - Graduate Program Committee
- Work mostly with students, lots of emails and lots of "crisis"
3. Can you or do you still teach?
   • YES, a reduced load

4. What about your research program?
   • Yes, required, but results are at a reduced level. Catchup in summer.
5. What training and/or mentoring did you receive in the process of becoming an administrator?

- Universities might have professional development opportunities, use them!

- My two supervisors (in my 2 admin positions) were also my mentors; I also reached out to VP of Diversity

- University now has a semester long "development track" for "new administrators" - new deans, new dept heads, etc.

- Univ. has Professional Development seminar - that is largely closed to URM
Joys of Administration (4)

6. Is there a pathway from administration back to being a regular academic? How would you navigate that path?

- be very jealous of your time - learn to say no
- be very intentional on what you get involved
- increased name recognition, learn to hide