

Memorandum

TO: Faculty Senate Steering Committee

FROM: Graduate Council

SUBJECT: Revised Graduate Faculty Policy

DATE: February 23, 2012

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The Graduate Council recommends adopting the attached revision to a current policy entitled "University-Wide Qualifications for Participation in Graduate Education (Graduate Faculty and Graduate Faculty Scholars)." The policy revision resolves a number of concerns regarding the current policy.

- Creates a single category of Graduate Faculty, removing the Full and Associate sub-categories. All graduate faculty are eligible to teach graduate courses, serve as members of thesis and dissertation committees, and serve as chairs or co-chairs of master's thesis committees.
- Establishes a separate eligibility of graduate faculty to serve as the chair of a dissertation committee. Bases this eligibility on a set of criteria for scholarly currency. These criteria are established by each graduate program and approved by the department chair/unit director.
- Maintains a requirement for thesis or dissertation committee experience, but in a manner that may be independent of the Chair. For instances in which the Chair has not served on a thesis or dissertation committee that has successfully graduated a student, another member of the committee who has this experience must be designated to serve as a vice chair.