

# GRADUATE COUNCIL

Policy Changes and Revisions, 2011-2012

## Graduate Faculty Policy (major revision)

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### Policy Revisions

- 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. If 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.

### Implementation

- Nominees for graduate faculty and graduate faculty scholars will be reviewed according to the revised policy beginning immediately. New forms will be available by the end of Summer.
- Revised website - available by the end of August.
- Criteria for serving as dissertation chairs will be requested later in the Summer and collected in early Fall 2012. Guidelines will be provided along with the request.
- New thesis/dissertation student advisory committee composition requirements - implementation starting for all committees constituted after the beginning of classes in Fall 2012. Previous committee compositions will be honored.

## C grade limit (revision)

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The number of "C" grade credits allowed to satisfy degree program requirements was revised from a limit of 6 SCH to "a maximum total of six semester credit hours of "C" grades, or the "C" grade credits associated with at most two classes, whichever is greater." Exceeding six semester credit hours of unsatisfactory grades still remains grounds for dismissal.

## 7-year rule: Approval practice change - implemented starting August 2012

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The approval of 7-year rule petitions will only extend to the indicated term of graduation - an additional term will NOT be included along with the approval.