

# GRADUATE SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Graduate School Charter was established in January, 1957, in accordance with provisions in the University of Washington Handbook, Volume II, Chapter 23 of Sections 23-41, 23-45e, and 23-46a of the Faculty code. It was amended in 1974, 1983, 2008, and in 2009. The Graduate School Charter was renamed “Charter of the Graduate School Council” as part of the 2008 revisions.

# Role of the GS Council

- The Council is an elected body of Graduate Faculty serving in an advisory capacity to the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School.
- The Council has legislative authority for all matters pertaining to graduate education requiring a vote of elected representatives.
- The Graduate School Dean sits as chair of the Council

# Membership

(Faculty who have Graduate Faculty Status)

- One representative from each UW Seattle college or school.
- Two representatives each from UW Bothell and UW Tacoma.
- One representative from the University of Washington Libraries (ex-officio).
- One representative from each division of the College of Arts and Sciences.

# Representative Election Guidelines

- Each College, School or campus manages its own election process;
- Voting members are those who hold a Graduate Faculty appointment within that school, college or campus;
- Except for UW Libraries, their Dean or Chancellor determines the voting members for selection of their representative;
- Elected representatives serve for staggered terms of three years in order to provide continuity of the body;
- If a representative takes a leave of absence or is unable to complete their term, a replacement is appointed by the Dean or Chancellor of the college or school;
- The President of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) sits *ex-officio*, without vote.

# What does the Council do?

- Advise the Dean and make recommendations concerning graduate education policies.
- Review and make recommendations on program reviews of existing graduate degree and certificate programs and on new graduate program proposals.
- Act on behalf of the Graduate Faculty with respect to academic standards and practices.
- Refer appropriate issues for discussion to Deans/Chancellors/Chairs/Directors or Graduate Program Coordinators

# Reviewing New Program Proposals

- Provide the Dean of the Graduate School with a formal recommendation to advance the proposal to the Board of Regents for formal approval; or
- To provide the Graduate School with concrete feedback it can communicate back to the proposing unit that outlines specific issues that must be addressed before recommendation for advancement to the Board of Regents.

# Council Role in Program Reviews

- Each Council members participates in several program reviews and each review includes two Council members
  - Council representatives attend the charge meeting.
  - Council representatives also attend the final exit meeting which occurs at the end of the unit's site visit.
  - The Council members present a summary of outcomes and recommendations to the Graduate School Council.

## **After Reporting to Council?**

- The Council makes two core recommendations to the Graduate School Dean:
  - Whether the academic unit's program(s) should be continued;
  - When the next review should occur, and additional recommendations they deem important to include.

# “Scholar Citizen” Award

- The Graduate School offers this Medal Award to recognize Ph.D candidates whose academic expertise and social awareness are integrated in a way that demonstrates an exemplary commitment to the University and its larger community.
  - Council members get to interview the finalists and vote on who gets the \$5,000 one year award to recognize the “Scholar-citizen”

# If you have any questions....

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