Constitution of the Graduate Council

The Graduate Council will establish and maintain university-wide procedures, rules, and standards for the MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD degree programs at Tulane.

Article I: Membership

The voting membership of Graduate Council will consist of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, who will serve as its chair, and twelve elected faculty members each elected by a vote of the graduate faculty of their respective schools. Four of these members will represent the School of Liberal Arts, four will represent the School of Science and Engineering, and one each will represent the School of Medicine and the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. These ten members shall serve three-year staggered terms.

The remaining two elected faculty members shall serve two-year staggered terms, and these slots shall rotate among schools as follows: One shall rotate among the School of Medicine, the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and the School of Social Work. The other shall rotate among the A. B. Freeman School of Business, the School of Architecture, and the School of Law.

A Vice-Chair will be elected from the Graduate Council voting membership at the beginning of each academic year.

The Vice President for Research will also serve as a non-voting ex officio member.

Three non-voting student members will be elected from the MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD students. Two of these student members will be from the uptown campus and one from the downtown campus. The student members will be elected by a vote of the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GAPSA). Student members will serve one-year terms and are eligible for re-election.

Article II: Functions

1. Approval of new MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD programs after the program has received the approval of the graduate faculty of the school administering the program.

2. Approval of major curriculum changes in existing MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD programs following the approval of the appropriate school.

3. Approval of the termination of any MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD program after this termination has been approved by the graduate faculty of the school administering the program.

Originally approved by University Senate September 10, 2007. Revised and approved by the University Senate April 4, 2011.
4. Establishment and maintenance of university-wide rules, procedures, and standards governing MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD programs.

5. Initiation of reviews of MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD programs when the Graduate Council deems it appropriate.

6. Report by the Vice-Chair on Graduate Council activities to University Senate at the last meeting of each semester.

Article III: Meetings

Meetings of the Graduate Council shall be called by the Chair or by any six voting Council members. Seven voting members of the Graduate Council shall constitute a quorum.

Article IV: Graduate Faculty

Each school offering MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and/or PhD degrees shall establish a graduate faculty within the guidelines established by the school. Members of the graduate faculty of each school may serve as members of the Graduate Council. The members of the Graduate Council are elected by votes of the graduate faculty of the appropriate school or schools.

Article V: Amendments

This constitution may be amended by the University Senate by a majority vote of members present.
Schedule of At-Large Appointments

At-large appointments are in addition to any permanent seats the school may have.

2011-12 School of Architecture (remainder of existing term)

2011-13 School of Medicine

2012-14 A. B. Freeman School of Business

2013-15 School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

2014-2016 School of Law

2015-17 School of Social Work