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 ten elected faculty members. Three of the members will represent the School of Liberal Arts, three will represent the School of Science and Engineering, one will represent the School of Medicine, and one will represent the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. One at-large member will be elected from the graduate faculties of the School of Medicine and the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and one at large member will be elected from the graduate faculties of the schools not represented by the other nine members. Each elected member will be elected by a vote of the graduate faculty of the school or, in the case of the at-large members, the graduate faculties of the schools that the member represents. The Associate Senior Vice President for Research will also serve as a non-voting ex officio member.

Faculty nominations for a Graduate Council member representing a single school will be provided according to procedures established by that school. Faculty nominations for at-large representatives will be provided by the Graduate Council after consultation with the deans of the schools represented by the at-large member.

The faculty members of the Graduate Council shall serve three year staggered terms.

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 Health Sciences Center. The student members from the uptown campus will be elected by a vote of the MA, MS, MLA, MFA, and PhD students in the schools on the uptown campus. The student member from the Health Sciences Center will be elected by a vote of the MS and PhD students in the schools at the Health Sciences Center.

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.

Changes approved by University Senate on September 10, 2007
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.

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.

Article III: Meetings

Meetings of the Graduate Council shall be called by the Chair or by any four 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.