Standards for Determination of Membership on the Graduate Faculty

Department of Political Science

1. The Graduate Faculty Committee shall be appointed by the Chair with the advice of Committee A.

2. Essential qualifications for membership on the graduate faculty include possession of a terminal degree and a regular (not visiting or adjunct) appointment in the Department of Political Science. Typically, the terminal degree means a Ph.D. or D.P.A. Appropriate experience and expertise also may be considered. For example, former government practitioners who hold an advanced degree and who held appointments in the Senior Executive Service or its equivalent may be considered for appointment to the graduate faculty. Persons holding specialization in fields in which some other terminal degree generally is deemed sufficient qualification for graduate teaching and research also may be presented to the Graduate Faculty Committee for review.

3. Satisfaction of the conditions enumerated in Item 2 above qualifies faculty for appointment to the graduate faculty at the M2 level and permits faculty to teach graduate level courses, serve on master's committees, direct master's theses, and serve on doctoral committees.

4. Graduate faculty who are to direct dissertations are appointed at the M3 level and must satisfy the conditions in Item 2 above and be actively engaged in scholarly activity. Although this activity may be demonstrated over a period of seven years prior to the faculty member being approved to direct dissertations, a record of continuous scholarly productivity is expected. Scholarly activity means books or journal articles, book chapters, research reports, and review articles for scholarly journals. Publications should be equivalent to at least three journal articles. In individual cases, other forms of scholarly activity may be considered by the Graduate Faculty Committee as effective compliance with these standards.

5. Initially, junior faculty will be appointed to the graduate faculty at the M3 level for a three year term. Membership at the M3 level can be renewed upon completion of the third year tenure review with a recommendation to reappoint without reservation. If the result of the third year tenure review is a recommendation to reappoint with reservation, appointment to the graduate faculty will be made at the M2 level. In general, junior faculty who recently have completed their doctoral work are discouraged from directing dissertations.

6. Faculty who do not have regular appointments in the Department of Political Science also may serve on the graduate faculty under certain circumstances. Appointment to the graduate faculty as a Special Member can be recommended for faculty who participate in graduate program activities for a limited period and purpose. Typically, such appointment would be made to permit faculty to teach graduate courses or serve on graduate examination, thesis or dissertation committees. For appointment as a Special Member, faculty should possess some unique characteristic that would enhance the performance and reputation of the Department. In most cases, that quality would be broad, national recognition for contributions to their field. In some cases, it may be exceptional experience or expertise or documented ability as an exceptionally strong teacher. In no instance should standards be lower than those in Item 2 above. Appointments for faculty teaching in Advanced Programs will be made for a two year period and can be renewed. Faculty appointed to serve on graduate committees will receive one year appointments which can be renewed until the specified activity is completed.

7. Faculty members can appeal Departmental decisions through appropriate procedures as described in Article IV, Section 1b of the Charter of the Graduate School in the Faculty Handbook.

Adopted by vote of the faculty on November 5, 1993.