(A) Policy Statement and Purpose

This policy describes graduate faculty status appointments, criteria, and review procedures.

(B) Policy

(1) Standard Appointments to the BGSU Graduate Faculty

Regular Status - The Graduate Council recognizes that the nature of research and academic scholarship in various departments and schools varies according to discipline; consequently, each graduate program will determine its criteria and performance indicators for Regular status on Graduate Faculty. Minimally, these criteria and performance indicators must conform to the goals of graduate education stated above. Initially, the Dean of the College to which the program reports, the Dean Designate of the Graduate College, and Graduate Council must approve the criteria and performance indicators for each unit. Subsequently, an evaluation of each program's standards will be conducted routinely as part of the Program Review process.

Each program's Graduate Faculty documents must include performance indicators in each of the following categories:

(a) Degree Qualifications: The criteria must include a statement regarding the requisite academic degree qualifications in the program in question. In most cases,
documents should require that the faculty member hold a graduate degree appropriate to his/her field: either the doctoral degree or the terminal degree for those academic areas in which the doctorate is not normally required.

(b) Scholarship and Creative Activity: The criteria must include evidence of a continuous record of productive scholarship or creative endeavors that represents a significant contribution to the knowledge base and/or the creative practice of one's field of study. While the unit may define the type of research/creative work, the quality of that work must, in most cases, have been verified by publication in peer reviewed journals, presentation of juried works of art, etc. (e.g., a process of external peer review). Exceptions to the peer review criterion could be made in the case of editorships of scholarly journals.

(c) Graduate Teaching: The criteria must include evidence of active and productive participation in the instruction of graduate students. This instruction may include activities such as teaching graduate courses, advising, course development, thesis/dissertation advising, and other activities that contribute substantially to the educational experience of graduate students.

Regular Graduate Faculty members may teach courses at the 5xx through 7xx levels, serve as members of thesis and dissertation committees, direct master's theses and doctoral dissertations, vote in Graduate College elections, and stand for election to Graduate Council.

(2) Renewal Protocol

In order to keep the Graduate Faculty a viable body, the qualifications of the Regular members are reviewed periodically. The term of a Regular Graduate Faculty Appointment is five years. Graduate faculty members in each program will establish a protocol for evaluating the credentials of Regular faculty members upon expiration of their terms. Based on this review, the Graduate Faculty in the program will recommend to the Graduate Dean (or Designate)
either (a) renewal of the nominee's Regular status, or (b) termination of the nominee's membership on Graduate Faculty.

Provisional Status - New BGSU faculty members who do not meet the criteria for Regular status and who have the appropriate terminal degree may be nominated by their graduate programs for Provisional membership on Graduate Faculty. Provisional status enables faculty members to participate in all facets of graduate education except that they may not direct doctoral-level students or chair doctoral committees. In individual cases, programs may petition the Graduate Dean Designate to permit Provisional members to direct doctoral-level students.

It is expected that the Provisional appointment will allow faculty members to acquire the necessary credentials for Regular membership. A Provisional appointment is valid for up to five years and is non-renewable. After serving three years of a Provisional appointment, faculty members who meet the criteria for Regular Graduate Faculty status may apply for a Regular appointment.

Provisional Graduate Faculty members may teach courses at the 5xx through 7xx levels, serve as members of thesis and dissertation committees, direct master's theses, vote in Graduate College elections, and stand for election to Graduate Council.

(3) Courtesy Appointments to the BGSU Graduate Faculty

Ad Hoc Appointment - Normally, only Provisional and Regular members of the Graduate Faculty may teach graduate courses or serve on thesis and dissertation committees. Occasionally, however, BGSU employees may be authorized to teach specific graduate courses or serve on a thesis or dissertation committee in a capacity other than chair or principal advisor. These persons may be administrators or ex-administrators who, because of the demands of administrative duties, do not currently meet the criteria for Regular Graduate Faculty status. Until such time that they fulfill Regular Graduate Faculty status expectations, these persons can be involved in graduate activities as an Ad Hoc member of the Graduate Faculty.
Ad Hoc appointments will be made only if all of the following stipulations apply: (a) there is a demonstrated need for the course or committee service to be conducted by the appointee nominee; (b) no Regular or Provisional faculty are available; and (c) the nominee demonstrates suitable qualifications in the subject area.

Authority to teach a specific course or serve on a committee must be gained prior to the beginning of the course or the constitution of the committee.

Ad Hoc Graduate Faculty members may teach courses at the 5xx through 7xx levels or serve as members of thesis and dissertation committees.

Adjunct Appointment - The Graduate Dean Designate may grant Adjunct Graduate Faculty appointments to individuals who teach graduate courses or serve on thesis or dissertation committees but are not regularly and continuously on the staff and do not normally receive a salary from BGSU. Such Adjunct appointments must have approval of the line Dean, the Graduate Dean Designate, and the chief academic officer of the University. Adjunct Graduate Faculty appointments are made for a designated time period and are renewable. The credentials of Adjunct Graduate Faculty must be reviewed at least once every five years.

Authority to teach a specific course or serve on a committee must be gained prior to the beginning of the course or the constitution of the committee.

Adjunct Graduate Faculty members may teach courses at the 5xx through 7xx levels or serve as members of thesis and dissertation committees.

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