

Proposal for Affiliate Graduate Faculty Status in Biology

The purpose of this document is to acknowledge the mutual benefit of having faculty from other departments supervise PhD students in the Department of Biological Sciences (Biology) and to establish the guidelines by which this collaboration can take place. Faculty from other departments may apply for Affiliate Graduate Faculty Status in Biology, which would allow them to directly supervise PhD students in Biology.

Qualifications of faculty from other departments for Affiliate Graduate Faculty Status in Biology

1. The faculty member must meet the criteria for graduate faculty status in Biology.
2. All faculty credentials will be reviewed by the Graduate Committee every 3 years. The Graduate Committee will make a recommendation as to Affiliate Graduate Faculty status in Biology and the Biology Graduate Faculty will vote on the recommendation.
3. In addition to the basic criteria required by the Graduate College, the faculty member should also demonstrate and document a contribution to the Biology program (e.g., teach/co-teach graduate classes, obtain collaborative grants with Biology faculty, coauthor papers with Biology faculty) during the specific period of review. The faculty member will be asked to provide a brief description of the relevant contributions.
4. The faculty member should submit a CV annually to the Biology Graduate Committee, which documents these qualifications and contributions.
5. Faculty with less than 3 years of advising graduate students will be eligible for provisional Affiliate Graduate Faculty status. Faculty who have successfully advised a graduate student and have served as graduate faculty for at least 3 years are eligible for regular Affiliate Graduate Faculty status.

Qualifications and admission of PhD students to be supervised by faculty from other departments

1. The prospective student must meet the Graduate College and Biology criteria for admission and funding.
2. The prospective student will have relevant experience or a previous degree(s) in some aspect of the Biological Sciences or related field.
3. Affiliate Graduate Faculty will work with the Biology Graduate Coordinator to identify qualified candidates.

Funding of PhD students

1. Priority for Biology funds will be given to students advised by Biology graduate faculty, not Affiliate Graduate Faculty.
2. Biology PhD students working with Affiliate Graduate Faculty will be funded either by the other department's graduate allocation or research funds of the supervisor, for the entire length of the student's degree program.

Important note: the student will be informed at the time of admission and funding that their funding is the responsibility of the other department and Biology makes no funding commitment at that time or in the future.

3. Should a student funded by the other department decide to complete his/her degree with a Biology faculty advisor, Biology will consider them for funding using the normal procedures, but this funding is not guaranteed.

Assistantship duties

1. If the student is being supported from a non-Biology graduate allocation as a teaching assistant, he/she can fulfill his/her teaching duties in either that department/program or in Biology. If Biology courses, the affiliate graduate advisor will work with the Biology Graduate Coordinator to have the student assist, where possible, in courses that are relevant to the student's research. However, the final decision on assignment of Biology teaching duties is the responsibility of the Biology Graduate Coordinator.

Program of Study

1. All Biology PhD students, regardless of their advisor, should meet the same course requirements (e.g., core course in discipline, Biodoc, Grant Writing, Biology Department Seminar).
2. The 9 credits of formal coursework may include graduate courses in other departments, provided the basic requirements have been met (e.g., Biodoc, Grant Writing, Biology Department Seminar), subject to approval by the Graduate Coordinator through the TDP process.
3. All Biology PhD students, regardless of their advisor, should meet all benchmarks and criteria as set forth in the department rules.

Dissertation topic

1. The dissertation topic must have relevance in some aspect of the Biological Sciences.

Dissertation committee

1. The dissertation committee will have a majority of faculty from Biology, at least one of which should be tenured.

Data reporting

1. Biology will count any PhD completions by students supervised by Affiliate Graduate Faculty.
2. Affiliate Graduate Faculty advisors will count the student in his/her CV, annual faculty record update, workload, RPT matters, etc.