



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE FACULTY MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

UNIT POLICY—ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Policy Statement:

Graduate faculty shall be selected based on their demonstrated ability to effectively teach graduate students, complete high quality creative work, conduct scholarly research, and direct the research of graduate students in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Faculty Credentialing Policy.

Purpose:

The Graduate Faculty of North Carolina A&T State University (N.C. A&T or University) exist as part of the total university faculty. The primary function of the Graduate Faculty shall be to provide educational and research experiences which support a high quality graduate education and advise on policies associated with graduate programs at the university.

Obtaining Graduate Faculty Status:

Each college/school will establish specific criteria, including the number of research publications or funded research grants within specified time frames, that delineate what constitutes an adequate record of sustained academic and scholarly activity for full or affiliate membership in the graduate faculty. On the basis of the approved criteria, the college/school will develop a process of systematic review and evaluation that will lead to becoming a member of the graduate faculty. The roster of members of the graduate faculty for graduate programs of each college shall be provided to the Dean of the Graduate College at the start of each academic year. Faculty may hold graduate faculty status in more than one college and department. For joint programs, faculty members from other institutions are granted graduate faculty status by reciprocity.

(1) Full Members:

Tenured, tenure-track, and full-time non-tenure track faculty members with a terminal degree and full-time EHRA non-teaching employees with a terminal degree are eligible for full graduate faculty status. Full members of the graduate faculty will meet the criteria for graduate faculty membership established by the academic college/school faculty and will be granted full member status through a process determined by the academic college/school. In certain circumstances, full members of the graduate faculty from one college or department may serve as the chair in a different college or department. These members must be approved by the dean of the respective college/school and the Dean of the Graduate College.

Full members of the graduate faculty may teach graduate level courses in their areas of expertise, serve as graduate program coordinator, serve on thesis/dissertation committees, and chair master's thesis and doctoral dissertation committees. Full members are eligible for election to the Graduate Council, to serve as a Graduate Coordinator, to represent the Graduate College on thesis and dissertation defenses, and to vote on graduate program issues presented to the Graduate Faculty.

(2) Affiliate Members:

Full-time or part-time non-tenure track faculty members, full-time or part time EHRA non-teaching employees, visiting, retired, clinical, extension, practicum, research, teaching, and contractual employees are eligible for affiliate membership status. In addition, affiliate graduate faculty will meet the criteria for obtaining graduate faculty status established by the academic college/school faculty and will become an affiliate member of the graduate faculty through a process determined by the academic college/school. Those external to the university may be granted graduate faculty membership by a majority vote of the graduate faculty in the department/program.

Affiliate members of the graduate faculty may teach graduate courses, serve as the third member on a thesis committee, fourth member on a dissertation committee, and may serve as the program coordinator with approval from the Dean of the Graduate College.

Review and Continuation of Graduate Faculty:

Each college/school will establish a process for continuation and removal of graduate faculty status. This process will be based on a variety of factors, including scholarly productivity, record of graduate teaching or mentorship, and other factors as defined by the college/school. The period of review will be defined by each college/school based on posted criteria, but must occur at least once every five years. The period of review may be scheduled to coincide with tenure and post tenure review. The dean of the college conducting the review will notify the faculty member of the result of the review.

A faculty member will automatically lose Graduate Faculty status at any time that the faculty member is deemed deficient under post-tenure review. The dean of the college/school will notify faculty who lose graduate faculty membership, and exclude the faculty member's name from the list of graduate faculty members at the beginning of the next academic year.

POLICY HISTORY

Approved: August 6, 2012;
Eff: August 15, 2013;
Revised Eff: October 12, 2015; August 24, 2020

AUTHORITY: Chancellor

POLICY OWNER: Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: Vice Provost for Graduate Research and Dean of the Graduate College

RESOURCES:

Credentialing Policy