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Academic Divisions of the University

College of Arts and Sciences (1910)

- Joseph P. Messina, Dean

Culverhouse College of Business (1919)

- Kay M. Palan, Dean

College of Communication and Information Sciences (1973)

- Mark D. Nelson, Dean

College of Community Health Sciences (1971)

- Richard Friend, Dean

College of Continuing Studies (1919)

- Jonathon Halbesleben, Interim Dean

College of Education (1909)

- Peter S. Hlebowitsh, Dean

College of Engineering (1909)

- Charles L. Karr, Dean

Graduate School (1924)

- Susan Carvalho, Dean

Honors College (2003)

- Tara Williams, Dean

College of Human Environmental Sciences (1931)

- Stuart Usdan, Dean

School of Law (1872)

- Mark E. Brandon, Dean

Capstone College of Nursing (1976)

- Suzanne Prevost, Dean

School of Social Work (1965)

- Lesley Reid, Interim Dean

Graduate School Staff

Qualifications of the Graduate Faculty

The purpose of the graduate faculty of The University of Alabama is to set standards for graduate work and to provide graduate instruction. It is the responsibility of the graduate faculty in each division to elect its representative(s) to the Graduate Council, which acts for the faculty in matters relating to graduate work. There are three categories of members: full, associate, and affiliate. Only members of the graduate faculty may teach courses numbered 500 or above, and only members

of the graduate faculty may serve on thesis, dissertation, and examining committees. For membership criteria and roles, see the UA Faculty Handbook, Appendix J.

Terms of appointment

Full and associate members are appointed for six-year, renewable terms.

Affiliate membership

Affiliate membership may be extended to well-qualified individuals who do not satisfy the above criteria, to perform specific functions for specific time periods not to exceed three calendar years. They should be recommended by the departmental graduate faculty, department chairperson, and dean of the academic division. These nominations then will be acted on by the chairperson of the Graduate Council, the dean of the Graduate School. While affiliate faculty members may serve as co-chair to a committee, they may NOT serve as the sole chair.

Administrative appointments

Faculty members currently on administrative appointments or returning to the faculty from such appointments are eligible for full or associate membership on the graduate faculty. They should show, at a minimum, promise of satisfying the appropriate departmental and University membership criteria. The individual's record of teaching and research before becoming an administrator should be considered.

Retirement

After a graduate faculty member retires, the faculty member may need to continue to serve as a chair or member of students' thesis or dissertation committees and/or to perform other specific functions. For this reason, members of the graduate faculty are automatically permitted to retain the graduate faculty status that they hold upon retirement, for up to three years after retirement. After that point, retired graduate faculty members may be appointed as affiliate members of the graduate faculty, with terms of one to three years, for as long as needed, for this purpose and/or to perform other specific functions. The nomination and appointment procedures for these affiliate appointments are the same as those adopted by the academic unit and the University.

Graduate Faculty

A current list of full, associate and joint members of the Graduate Faculty is available online. It includes each faculty member's name, department, status (associate or full member), appointment date, and end-of-appointment date. Faculty members need to apply through their department and the dean's office of their college/school for reappointment to the graduate faculty during the fifth year of their six-year appointment, in order to continue to teach graduate courses, serve on thesis and dissertation committees, and chair dissertation committees (full members only).

A list of affiliate graduate faculty is also available online. The graduate dean appoints such faculty to perform specific functions (e.g., serving on a thesis or dissertation committee) for a finite period of time, and the appointment ends when the function is completed.

Graduate Faculty Appointment Procedure

The procedure is the same for initial appointments and renewal appointments. The department chair sends the dean of the college an appointment request either for full, associate, or affiliate graduate faculty status.

The department chair attaches the faculty member's current curriculum vitae to the request. The dean of the college reviews the request and, if the dean approves, forwards the request to the dean of the graduate

school. The dean of the graduate school reviews the request and responds to the dean of the college, the department chair, and the graduate faculty candidate. The qualification for graduate faculty at the University of Alabama can be found in the Faculty Handbook - Appendix J.

Graduate Faculty in Multiple Departments

To accommodate the full breadth of faculty members' expertise as well as to facilitate the establishment of interdepartmental and/or interdisciplinary student committees, it is permissible that faculty be appointed as Full or Associate graduate faculty in multiple departments, to teach graduate courses and/or serve on graduate thesis/dissertation committees. The appointment process follows the regular Graduate Faculty Appointment Procedure, with the department chair initiating the request for an appointment. The type of appointment will depend on each department's criteria and their regular appointment procedures. In cases in which the faculty member has no contractual effort assigned in the department in which the appointment is requested, the chair's request for an appointment must include confirmation that the request is supported by the chair(s) of the faculty member's home department(s).

Secondary graduate faculty appointments are initiated by the secondary department and with the approval of the home department. Secondary graduate faculty appointments expire at the same time as the graduate faculty appointment of the home department and can be renewed concurrently with the home department renewal, if initiated by the secondary department and with the approval of the home department.