Graduate Faculty

UNIVERSITY POLICY #255

Authority:
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President's Signature: On File

SECTION 1: Purpose and Scope

1.1 The purpose of this Policy is to recognize and provide the general guidelines for members for graduate faculties.

1.2 This Policy applies to all University Faculty, Staff,

SECTION 2: General Principles

2.1 The Graduate Faculty consists of those members of the general faculty who have continuing, significant responsibilities in the instruction, supervision, and advisement of graduate students, as well as the development and advancement of graduate programs. Their qualifications enable them to make significant contributions to the training of graduate students in research and/or professional graduate degree programs in a comprehensive and sustained manner. Membership is not intended for the limited purpose of teaching a course, or for serving on a singular or occasional thesis and/or dissertation committee, as members of the general faculty may be assigned these duties based on qualification established in WLU Policy 253. Nor is it intended as a means to recognize an individual who holds a graduate degree and may be employed at the University otherwise. Membership is intended for individuals who will participate broadly in the training of graduate students (e.g. supervising graduate student research or the culminating experience in a professional master's and/or doctorate program; serving on program committees; chairing thesis and/or doctorate committees; etc.) on an ongoing basis, and who, in addition to the basic qualifications to teach graduate courses as specified in WLU Policy 253, have an active program of research or other scholarship appropriate to the field. Members of the Graduate Faculty are able to apply for assistance with their professional activities through special funding and/or teaching release as may be provided by other policies or programs.

SECTION 3: Qualifications and Procedures

3.1 Individuals may be designated as members of the Graduate Faculty at the time they are hired. This is accomplished at the recommendation of the hiring Dean with the approval of the Provost and President. The recommending Dean will supply written justification to the Provost, accompanied by supporting documentation that establishes not only the academic qualifications of the individual, but evidence of significant scholarly and/or professional activity appropriate to the field.

3.2 Members of the general faculty, part-time faculty or adjunct faculty may apply for Graduate Faculty status at any time. The Provost, in consultation with the Graduate Studies Council, will determine whether Graduate Faculty or Graduate Affiliated Faculty status is awarded. The application will consist of the following:

3.2.1 A current, detailed CV that includes:

3.2.1.1 degrees earned

3.2.1.2 professional positions held

3.2.1.3 peer reviewed publications and presentations, juried works, grants and contracts awarded, or other examples of appropriate scholarly or professional activities

3.2.1.4 professional affiliations, and

3.2.1.5 graduate courses taught.

3.2.2 Appropriate evidence of items listed above updated in the faculty personnel file (per Policy 213) located in the Provost's Office.

3.2.3 A recommendation from the individual's Department Chair or Program Director, and

3.2.4 A recommendation from the appropriate Dean.

3.3 Graduate Faculty membership status will be reviewed every three years. At the conclusion of the third full year of a faculty member's Graduate Faculty status, the appropriate Dean will recommend to the Provost whether to continue or withdraw Graduate Faculty status for the member, including justification for their recommendation. The member's current CV and the three most recent Faculty Performance Activity Reports will accompany this written recommendation. The Provost, in consultation with the Graduate Studies Council, will determine whether Graduate Faculty status is continued or withdrawn. Faculty members who are removed from Graduate Faculty status may apply for readmission after a minimum of one calendar year following the effective date of removal.

3.4 Ex Officio members of the Graduate Faculty are the Provost, Deans of the colleges, Dean of Graduate Studies, and Graduate Program Coordinators Directors.

SECTION 4: Benefits

4.1 Faculty designated as Graduate Faculty may receive the following benefits:

4.1.1 Priority funding for scholarly activity,

4.1.2 Priority for GTA/GRA support,

4.1.3 Recognition in the Graduate Catalog, and

4.1.4 Recognition at Commencement.