

## Proposed Change to R&P 1.3.2.2 Graduate and Research Committee

### Rationale:

It has been long-standing GRC practice that ex-officio members do not vote. However, every so often, the question comes up of whether they should. R&P is not entirely clear on the matter. Ex-officio members are not explicitly barred from voting and there are four explicitly non-voting members of the committee. Some argue that this means that ex-officio members should vote. Others argue that Roberts Rules of Order allows committees to decide for themselves whether ex-officio members should vote. In order to clarify GRC rules once and for all, GRC proposes to change R&P to conform to actual practice, and make ex-officio members explicitly non-voting. While GRC continues to value and rely upon the expertise of ex-officio members, such a move recognizes GRC as an independent faculty voice in relation to research and graduate education.

### Revised Text of R&P 1.3.2.2

The committee considers policies and procedures related to graduate education and research.

The responsibilities and duties of the committee include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Develop general policies and procedures related to graduate education and research activities. These are submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval;
- 2) Review the appropriateness and quality of graduate programs and research activities in relation to the educational objectives of the university;
- 3) Review and approve substantive graduate course changes and curriculum proposals (see section 3.2.1) submitted by the colleges. The Graduate and Research Committee (GRC) shall send approved proposals to the Educational Policy Committee for informational purposes prior to the GRC submitting them to the Faculty Senate;
- 4) Interpret and apply faculty rules concerning student or department appeals of petition decisions;
- 5) Establish policies for awarding fellowships and scholarships to graduate departments and programs;
- 6) Recommend approval of the formation or termination of research centers and institutes;
- 7) Recommend policies and procedures to stimulate and coordinate research- related activities.

The committee consists of fourteen elected faculty members, eleven ex officio members (**non-voting**), and four **additional** non- voting members. The faculty are elected by their colleges to three-year, staggered terms, four from the College of Arts and Sciences, two from the College of Business and Economics, four from the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science, two from the College of Health, and two from the College of Education. Ex officio members (**non-voting**) are the Vice President and Associate Provost for Research and Graduate Studies, the Assistant Vice President of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, the Deputy Provost for Graduate Education, a designated Associate Dean from each of the five Colleges, and the Associate Dean of Graduate Student Life. The Registrar or his/her delegate

serves as a non-voting member of the Graduate and Research Committee. Two graduate students selected by the Graduate Student Senate, and one undergraduate student selected by the Student Senate, also serve as non-voting members.

One of the elected faculty members shall chair the committee or two elected members shall co-chair the committee. The term of the chair/co-chairs begins on July 1.

The minutes of the committee are sent to the Faculty Senate President and posted on the Lehigh University faculty website.

The committee chairperson (or another committee member) serves as an ex-officio member in the Senate Subcommittees on Research and Academic and Student Affairs.