

**Graduate Council**  
**2017-18 End-of-Year Report**

The following report includes the period from May 2017 through March 2018, including the summer months of June and July.

**Summary of Tasks Completed:**

1. 29 faculty applications for graduate faculty status were processed.
2. 49 student appeals or requests for time extension were processed.
3. New Academic Amnesty Policy (March 2018)
4. Time Extension Policy revision (February 2018)
5. New Graduate Faculty Appointments Policy (February 2018)—pending VPAA approval
6. New Thesis Hours Grading Policy (December 2017)
7. Requirements for Graduation and Dismissal from the Graduate School (December 2017)
8. Requirements for Graduate Degrees (December 2017)
9. Readmission Appeal Policy (October 2017)
10. Comprehensive Exam Policy revision (September 2017)
11. New Emeritus Graduate Faculty Member policy (April 2017)
12. Comprehensive Exam Protocol revised (April 2017)

The council has had a very productive year, continuing its agenda of improving policies and procedures that have helped to facilitate smoother processing of appeals as well as the functioning of the Graduate School and the council itself.

The chair changed the deadline for agenda items for Council meetings to 7 days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting, which is consistent with the University Curriculum Committee. Previously, the deadline was 72 hours, but this did not allow time to evaluate agenda items and request any missing paperwork from programs in time for the meeting.

The Council finalized and approved the Graduate Faculty Appointments Policy, after a year's debate and revision. This document demanded the majority of the Council's attention regarding policy, requiring more than one specially scheduled meeting to work through the details. However, the Vice President of Academic Affairs wishes for further changes, therefore this policy will need to be revisited.

The Council proceeded smoothly this year, with new members rotating on who are engaged and productive, and long-standing members rotating off to allow for participation of new members, especially by recent hires so they can learn the system.

Jana Giles and Patti Calk were reelected for a second two-year term (spring 2017-2019) as chair and secretary, respectively.

While the council will meet in May during the regular semester and after the semester has ended to accommodate student appeals that must be considered for students to continue, an interim chair will need to be established for any special meetings during June-July 2016. Historically, most members are willing to meet even if they are not under contract and thus further the work of the council, but some are not, and it is important to note that they are not legally required to meet if they are not under contract.