



*University Community (faculty, graduate students and University Graduate School administration)*

SUBJECT (R*)	EFFECTIVE DATE (R*)	POLICY NUMBER (O*)
GRADUATE FACULTY AND DISSERTATION ADVISOR STATUS	June 2012	380.0448

**POLICY STATEMENT (R\*)**

Graduate Faculty

Membership in the Graduate Faculty is a necessary qualification to be a member of a dissertation or thesis committee, including chair of a thesis committee.

All faculty who demonstrate continuing scholarship or creative activity are eligible for membership in the Graduate Faculty. Continuing scholarship and creative activity are evidenced and recognized through publications, presentations, performances, exhibits, awards and competitions. Other considerations include a continuing fulfillment of professional obligations through, for example, manuscript review, journal editorship, national advisory and review panels, and professional society leadership. An important consideration, when applicable, is the success of prior graduate students mentored by the faculty member

Dissertation Advisor Status (DAS)

Dissertation Advisor Status is a necessary qualification to serve as chair of a dissertation committee. A faculty member with Dissertation Advisor Status who is not tenured or tenure-earning cannot be sole chair of a dissertation committee but may serve as co-chair.

Individuals appointed as Graduate Faculty with Dissertation Advisor Status will be expected to demonstrate:

- high levels of scholarly productivity or creative activity;
- significant involvement in professional activities;
- successful mentoring of graduate students as evidenced by, for example, time to degree, post-degree appointment, publications from thesis or dissertation; and,
- successful attainment of external funding in disciplines where it is available.

Term of Appointment

Appointment to Graduate Faculty does not expire as long as the individual retains his/her position as departmental faculty. Graduate Faculty status expires when a faculty leaves or retires from the university. With the approval of the Graduate Program Director, retired faculty may continue to serve as major professor and as committee members for those students for which the retired faculty member was an approved major advisor or member of the committee prior to retirement.

Initial appointments for Dissertation Advisor Status will be for up to seven years. Faculty must apply for reappointment to DAS. Upon promotion from assistant to associate professor or associate to full professor, the DAS term is automatically renewed for a seven-year period from the date of promotion. Dissertation Advisor Status expires when a faculty leaves or retires from the university. With the approval of the Graduate Program Director, retired faculty may continue to serve as major professor and as committee members for those students for which the retired faculty member was an approved major advisor or member of the committee prior to retirement.

**HISTORY (R\*)**

Originally 11.3 RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS (effective 3/28/89) from *Graduate Policies and Procedures Manual* and POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: GRADUATE FACULTY (effective 6/11/02).

**RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT (R\*)**

University Graduate School  
Florida International University

**RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT (R\*)**

University Graduate School  
Modesto A. Maidique Campus  
11200 SW Eighth Street - PC 230  
Miami, Florida 33199  
Telephone: (305) 348-2455

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**\*R = Required \*O = Optional**