

RECOMMENDATION TO REVISE THE MEMBERSHIP AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Proposed deletions in strikethrough text; proposed insertions are underlined.

This document supersedes GFC Documents 284, 4/21/80; 369, 2/1/83; 669, 4/17/95; 690, 4/15/96; 780, 4/19/99, and the motion approved by the GFC on January 23, 2006

I. Proposed Regulations for the Graduate School Research Committee

The Graduate School Research Committee

1. Committee Charge: The Graduate Faculty ~~Council~~ Committee (GFC) charges the Research Committee to accept and review proposals from UWM faculty with particular emphasis on the following:
 - a. assisting tenure track and tenured faculty in developing their research careers. Assistant Professors and new Associate Professors (appointed or promoted to associate professor within the previous two academic years) should receive stronger preference;
 - b. providing funding during the initial phase of a new research project; and
 - c. providing funding for transition projects of faculty who are expanding their areas of research.
2. Membership: ~~The Research Committee comprises twelve members, three from each of the four academic divisions appointed for two year, staggered terms. The Graduate Program Committees of the schools and colleges nominate at least three members from each division. Among those nominated, at least one nominee must be a member of the GFC. The GFC Chairperson shall serve as *ex officio* and chairs the Committee's proceedings. The Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, and the Associate Dean for Research Services and Administration serve as *ex officio* members. The Research Committee comprises a minimum of five members, to be identified by the Graduate School on the basis of prior professional service to the Graduate School, as well as relevant expertise reflecting the breadth and diversity of the eligible applicant pool. The final selection of committee members will be undertaken in consultation with the Chair of the Research Policy Committee and the Chair of the GFC, and requires their approval.~~

Committee members will serve a one-year term, renewable annually up to three years contingent on the nature of the eligible applicant pool and availability of members. The GFC Chairperson shall serve as *ex officio* and chairs the committee's proceedings. The Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School or his/her designee serves as an *ex officio* member.

3. Functions: ~~Within the provisions of University Policies and Procedures [Chap. 2.06 (4) (a)] and s~~ Subject to approval by the ~~Graduate Faculty Council GFC~~, the Committee formulates guidelines and procedures for evaluation of faculty research proposals ~~for Research Committee support from in application for funds designated for this purpose and~~ administered by the Graduate School.

The Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School on behalf of the Research Policy and Advisory Committee annually invites UWM faculty members to apply for research support and distributes proposal instructions, regulations and procedures.

Following its guidelines and procedures, the Committee annually evaluates research proposals and submits its recommendations to the Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School.

The Committee submits an annual report and special reports as may be necessary to the Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, and to the Chairperson of the ~~Graduate Faculty Council GFC~~.

The Graduate School provides administrative support for the processes described above and announces the awards.

4. General Information:

- a. The Graduate School grants awards each year, currently with a maximum allowable stipend of \$15,000 per grant.
- b. ~~No division shall receive more than 35%, or less than 10%, of the total monies awarded in any given year.~~ Awards shall be made on the basis of merit.
- c. Awards are made on the basis of a “collegial” review. Proposals must be understandable by colleagues who are not specialists.
- d. Recipients are ineligible for another Graduate School research award for a period of three years following the award.
- e. Only tenure-track and tenured faculty with start-up awards of less than \$100,000 will be eligible for a GSRC research award;
- f. Recipients shall prepare a brief report for the ~~Graduate Faculty Council GFC~~ at the end of the grant period. The report should describe the recipient's activities and expenditures during the grant period. Failure to file the report with the Graduate School will make the recipient ineligible for future Research Policy and Advisory Committee awards until the report has been filed.

f. Copies of these reports will be made available to ~~Graduate Faculty Council members and for the faculty at large~~ through Research Services and Administration in the Graduate School.

g. ~~For a copy of the Graduate School *Research Committee Manual*, call Research Services and Administration in the Graduate School at 229-6012.~~

II. Justification for Proposed Changes

In 2006, eligibility requirements for Research Policy and Advisory Committee awards were changed to exclude those who had start-up funds of at least \$100,000, coinciding with the first year of the Research Growth Initiative (RGI). The cap on start-up funds had a disproportionate effect on faculty from the natural sciences, with only 2-3 applications per year coming from these faculty since the beginning of RGI. Therefore, the divisional distribution requirements for funds and for membership representation no longer make sense.

Additionally, total applications have decreased from a high of 110 for AY 2005-06 funds to 40 for AY 2009-10 funds. The reduced workload no longer warrants such a large committee size.

Applications for Research Policy Advisory Committee Awards by Division and Funding Year

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Arts & Humanities	25	19	13	16	18
Natural Sciences	27	21	3	2	2
Professions	34	27	16	17	10
Social Sciences	24	7	3	11	10
TOTAL	110	74	45	47	40

Other changes are editorial

III. Recommended Action

1. The changes to the Graduate School Research Committee regulations are approved as described in the text above.
2. These changes are effective immediately.