

**Summary and Justification of Changes for GFC Document #1173:
Recommendation of the Graduate Faculty Committee for the Criteria for: 1) Graduate Faculty Membership; 2) Major Professor, Advisor, or Committee Chair and Committee for Master's Students; and 3) Major Professor, Advisor, or Committee Chair and Committee for Doctoral Students**

Shrinking faculty numbers have placed increased pressure on many programs for graduate advising, and they have a need to involve qualified Academic Staff more fully in some roles. Additionally, the existing version of this policy restricted most Academic Staff involvement to those with the title of “Scientist,” which excluded many disciplines. This change will allow academic staff such as Visiting Faculty and Clinical Professors to participate in more aspects of graduate education. It makes no changes to the policies that define who can serve as advisor or major professor to PhD students. The Academic Staff Committee has endorsed these revisions. Authority for permitting individual Academic Staff members to fill these new roles continues to lie with executive committees of individual departments. The changes will:

1. Eliminate ambiguities in three places about whether the executive committee or department committee should issue certain approvals. (I.D.1, II.B, and II.D)
2. Loosen the requirement that formerly permitted only Academic Staff with the title of “Scientist” **to advise master’s students**. This opens the option to all instructional and research academic staff, provided they have the approval of the student’s executive committee. (II.B)
3. Loosen the requirement that formerly permitted only Academic Staff with the title of “Scientist” **to serve on doctoral committees**. This revision opens the option to all instructional and research academic staff, provided they have the approval of the student’s executive committee. (IV.A.1)
4. Loosen the requirement that formerly permitted only Academic staff with the title of “Scientist” or Instructional Academic Staff **to advise professional doctorates** (DNP, DPT). This revision makes all instructional and research Academic Staff eligible to advise professional doctorates, with approval from the student’s Executive Committee. Because academic staff with the title of “Scientist” are included in the category of Research Academic Staff, the specific reference to that title can be eliminated. This change anticipates the pending introduction of a new Academic Staff title of Research Professor, which would otherwise be excluded by the current policy. (VI.B)
5. Other minor edits to resolve pre-existing errors, and for clarity and consistency with these proposed revisions. For example, V.C has been deleted because it became redundant with IV.A.