



Frequently Asked Election Questions

What is the University Committee on Graduate Studies?

The University Committee on Graduate Studies has authority on grading policy for graduate and graduate-professional students. The committee reviews changes in graduate and professional academic programs and recommends approval or rejection to the University Committee on Curriculum.

UCGS has shared responsibility with the Dean of the Graduate School to consult with the Provost on the establishment, moratorium, discontinuance, or merger of graduate programs, on policy pertaining to methods of instruction, evaluation of instruction, advising and counseling, and admissions and retention of graduate and graduate-professional students. UCGS also consults with the Provost on other policies pertaining to administration of graduate and graduate-professional programs.

UCGS has shared responsibility with the Dean of the Graduate School to advise the Provost on the coordination of graduate and graduate-professional programs, policies pertaining to financial aid and employment of graduate students, and on the use and distribution of educational and research resources for graduate and graduate-professional programs and students. UCGS also works with the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies on policies relating to research development as they pertain to graduate and graduate-professional education.

What are the time obligations like?

UCGS meets one Monday a month from 3:00–5:00 p.m. Members assigned to a subcommittee have additional meetings. Meetings begin the first full week of classes and end before finals.

What is the length of the term?

Terms for candidates elected in the Spring Semester 2021 elections will begin on August 16, 2021 and end on August 16, 2024.

Who is eligible to vote in the election?

Per Section 1.1.2.1. of the Bylaws for Academic Governance, “The voting faculty in the election of University-level councils and committees shall be all regular faculty, health professions faculty, and FRIB/NSCL faculty. Voting faculty also includes full-time fixed-term faculty who have served at least three consecutive years and full-time academic specialists who have served at least three consecutive years. Voting faculty must be engaged in academic activities of the University.” The term “regular faculty” means those appointed under the rules of tenure and holding the rank of professor, associate professor, or assistant professor, as well as all persons appointed as librarians. Furthermore, per Section 1.1.2.1.1., “Full-time shall be defined as a workload equal to or greater than a 0.9 full-time equivalent.”

Who is eligible to be elected?

The following types of people are eligible to be elected if they 1) hold faculty status in the college electing them and 2) are engaged in academic activities of the university:

1. Regular faculty members (1.1.2.4.)
2. Health professions faculty members (1.1.2.4.)
3. FRIB/NSCL faculty members (1.1.2.4.)
4. Full-time fixed-term faculty members who have served at least three consecutive years (1.1.2.5.)
5. Full-time specialists who have served at least three consecutive years (1.1.2.5.)
6. Full-time specialists who have served fewer than three consecutive years, if provided for in the college bylaws