

Membership of the Graduate Faculty (revision to pages 1-2 of Rules of Order)

A. Definition and Role

1. To be a member of the Graduate Faculty, a member of the instructional faculty of Southern Connecticut State University shall a) be employed as a full-time faculty member; b) hold the rank of at least assistant professor; c) have either earned the terminal degree appropriate to his/her discipline from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or been granted the rank of full professor; d) have published research or engaged in public scholarly or creative activities with the last five years; and e) have a recurring role within that graduate program.
2. At Southern Connecticut State University, only members of the Graduate Faculty shall direct graduate theses. If there are compelling reasons, all instructional faculty members, whether designated Graduate Faculty or not, may teach graduate courses, serve on thesis committees, or be otherwise involved in graduate programs.

B. Procedures

1. Departments/programs are responsible for designating department/program members as graduate faculty, based on the criteria outlined in II. A. 1. The names of faculty so designated shall be forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies.
2. Each department/program may petition on behalf of its faculty members who do not meet the criteria outlined in II.A.1. by providing compelling reasons for granting those individuals Graduate Faculty membership. The Policy and Procedure Committee shall render judgment on the petition. The petition should include the faculty member's curriculum vitae as well as a cover letter providing the compelling reasons. If the Policy and Procedure Committee denies the petition, the department may appeal the decision to the Provost. The decision of the Provost shall be final.
3. Faculty members not designated in II.B.1. or II.B.2. may petition the Policy and Procedures Committee for consideration. The Policy and Procedures Committee shall render judgment on the petition after consultation with the department/program chair and graduate coordinator. If the Policy and Procedures Committee denies the petition, the faculty members may appeal the decision to the Provost. The decision of the Provost shall be final.