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Academic Divisions of the University
College of Arts and Sciences (1910)
- Robert F. Olin, Dean

Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration (1919)
- Kay M. Palan, Dean

College of Communication and Information Sciences (1973)
- Mark D. Nelson, Dean

College of Community Health Sciences (1971)
- Richard H. Streiffer, Dean

College of Continuing Studies (1919)
- Craig S. Edelbrock, Dean

College of Education (1909)
- Peter S. Hlebowitsh, Dean

College of Engineering (1909)
- Charles L. Karr, Dean

Graduate School (1924)
- Susan Carvalho, Dean

Honors College (2003)
- Shane Sharpe, Dean

College of Human Environmental Sciences (1931)
- Milla Boschung, Dean

School of Law (1872)
- Mark E. Brandon, Dean

Capstone College of Nursing (1976)
- Suzanne Prevost, Dean

School of Social Work (1965)
- Vikki Vandiver, Dean

Graduate School Staff
SUSAN CARVALHO, PhD, scarvalho@ua.edu
Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

CATHARINE PAGANI, PhD, cathy@ua.edu
Associate Dean of the Graduate School and Assistant to the Provost
The purpose of the graduate faculty of The University of Alabama is to set standards for graduate work and to provide graduate instruction. It is the responsibility of the graduate faculty in each division to elect its representative(s) to the Graduate Council, which acts for the faculty in matters relating to graduate work. There are three categories of members: full, associate, and temporary. Only members of the graduate faculty may teach courses numbered 500 or above, and only members of the graduate faculty may serve on thesis, dissertation, and examining committees. Only full members may chair dissertation committees, associate members may serve as co-chair to a committee, they may NOT serve as the sole chair.

Temporary membership

Temporary membership may be extended to well-qualified individuals who do not satisfy the above criteria, to perform specific functions for specific time periods not to exceed three calendar years. They should be recommended by the departmental graduate faculty, department chairperson, and dean of the academic division. These nominations then will be acted on by the chairperson of the Graduate Council, the dean of the Graduate School. While temporary faculty members may serve as co-chair to a committee, they may NOT serve as the sole chair.

Administrative appointments

Faculty members currently on administrative appointments or returning to the faculty from such appointments are eligible for full or associate membership on the graduate faculty. They should show, at a minimum, promise of satisfying the appropriate departmental and University membership criteria. The individual's record of teaching and research before becoming an administrator should be considered.

Retirement

Members of the graduate faculty are automatically permitted to retain graduate faculty status for one year after retirement. After a graduate faculty member retires, he or she may need to continue to serve as a chair or member of students’ thesis or dissertation committees. Retired faculty members may be appointed as temporary members of the graduate faculty for these purpose and/or to perform other specific functions. The nomination and appointment procedures for these temporary appointments are the same as those adopted by the academic unit and the University.

Graduate Faculty

A current list of Full, Associate and Joint Members of the Graduate Faculty is available online [please wait a few seconds for the list to load]. It includes each faculty member’s name, department, status (associate or full member), appointment date, and end-of-appointment date. Faculty members need to apply through their department and the dean’s office of their college/school for reappointment to the graduate faculty during the fifth year of their six-year appointment, in order to continue to teach graduate courses, serve on thesis and dissertation committees, and chair dissertation committees (full members only.)

A list of Temporary Graduate Faculty is also available online [please wait a few seconds for the list to load]. The graduate dean appoints such faculty to perform specific functions (e.g., serving on a thesis or dissertation committee) for a finite period of time, and the appointment ends when the function is completed.

Graduate Faculty Appointment Procedure

The procedure is the same for initial appointments and renewal appointments. The department chair sends the dean of the college an appointment request either for full, associate or temporary graduate faculty status.

The department chair attaches the faculty member’s current curriculum vitae to the request. The dean of the college reviews the request and, if the dean approves, forwards the request to the dean of the graduate school. The dean of the graduate school reviews the request and responds to the dean of the college, the department chair and the graduate faculty candidate.

[Note. Information on Qualifications of Graduate Faculty (such as full vs. associate vs. temporary status) is available at the Graduate School’s homepage, A-Z index, and in Section 2 of this Catalog.]