

UNC Charlotte

Graduate Council Member Duties

(Revised August 10, 2023)

I. Introduction

The Standing Rules of the Faculty Council and the Bylaws of the Graduate Faculty state that the mission of the Graduate Council is as follows:

- To provide a forum to review, develop, and make recommendations concerning Graduate School policy.
- To serve in advisory capacity to the Dean of the Graduate School in all matters pertaining to graduate education.

To do this effectively, Council members have to represent the interests of graduate education as a whole in addition to the interests of the specific college they may represent. The obligations of Council members go beyond attending meetings. Staying informed about graduate education, both in the U.S. and around the world may be needed at times.

II. How to Proceed before Attending a Meeting

- Review proposals and other materials per the instructions provided by the Graduate Council Secretary.
- Consult with colleagues within the college you represent and students about agenda items that may require ample consultation.
- Bring to the council the concerns of your colleagues and students.
- Notify the Graduate Council Chair and Secretary if you will not be able to attend the meeting and then contact your alternate.

III. Role of the Graduate Council as Advisory to the Dean of the Graduate School

The Council of Graduate Schools (<https://cgsnet.org/>) suggests the following as important functions of the Graduate School, and the Graduate School at UNC Charlotte enlists the help of the Graduate Council on all of them:

- Articulate a vision of excellence for the graduate community
- Provide quality control for all aspects of graduate education
- Maintain equitable standards across all academic disciplines
- Define what graduate education is and what it is not
- Bring an institution-wide perspective to all post baccalaureate endeavors
- Provide an interdisciplinary perspective
- Enhance the intellectual community of scholars among both graduate students and faculty

- Serve as an advocate for graduate education
- Emphasize the importance of adequately training future college and university teachers
- Develop ways for graduate education to contribute to and enhance undergraduate education
- Support graduate student services
- Serve as an advocate for issues and constituencies critical to the success of graduate programs

IV. Resources

- Standing Rules of the Faculty Council (last updated Apr. 28, 2022)
https://facultygovernance.charlotte.edu/sites/facultygovernance.charlotte.edu/files/media/Standing_Rules_04-28-22.pdf
- Bylaws of the Graduate Faculty
<https://facultygovernance.charlotte.edu/sites/facultygovernance.charlotte.edu/files/media/Graduate-Faculty-Bylaws.pdf> (last updated Oct. 22, 2015)
- Graduate Council web page
<https://facultygovernance.charlotte.edu/committees-faculty-council/graduate-council>