

## Graduate Studies Committee Proposed Policy Changes and Revisions

### 17.2 Graduate faculty appointments

Faculty members who are eligible to participate in the supervision of graduate students and teach graduate courses must have an academic appointment at UOIT. This may be a core or definite-term appointment, or that of an adjunct professor or professor emeritus/emerita. ~~Individuals wishing to teach at the graduate level are nominated by~~ the dean of the faculty through which the program is delivered submits nominations of individuals wishing to teach at the graduate level to the Dean of Graduate Studies for approval. ~~Once approved~~ The Dean of Graduate Studies reports new graduate faculty appointments to the Graduate Studies Committee. In situations where further discussion is required, the Dean of Graduate Studies may bring the nomination to the Graduate Studies Committee for consideration. ~~by the dean, the nomination is forwarded to the Graduate Studies Committee of Academic Council for final approval.~~

All faculty members who are currently involved in any aspect of graduate education, including acting as a research supervisor and/or member of a Supervisory Committee and who are listed in the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies (OCGS) briefs, automatically become eligible to teach graduate courses and supervise graduate students. The category of their graduate faculty status is determined by the criteria set out below.

Membership is effective from the date of introduction of a graduate program until the program is scheduled for a periodic appraisal by OCGS. At this point, all faculty members are re-evaluated for graduate teaching and supervision privileges. In effect, the normal renewal of graduate teaching and supervision privileges is synchronous with OCGS periodic program appraisal.

The updated faculty list is printed annually in the paper and electronic versions of the graduate section of the Academic Calendar. It is the responsibility of the graduate program director to keep an up-to-date list of eligible faculty members who participate in a graduate program.

### **PROPOSED NEW POLICY – ADMISSION OF MATURE STUDENTS**

Mature student status is meant to allow individuals the opportunity to demonstrate academic potential by other than strictly academic means.

Four years after completion of a baccalaureate degree, applicants whose academic preparation does not meet the normal minimum admission requirements may be considered for admission as mature students, provided they have four years of relevant professional experience. Students who have not earned a baccalaureate degree but who have extensive and relevant workplace experience may be considered for admission as mature students.

Students must submit a complete résumé and references which specifically address the applicant's aptitude for research and graduate education. Such recommendations must be approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies. Students admitted to this category cannot receive transfer credit for any courses.

In addition to meeting all university and program-specific requirements, mature applicants must provide a résumé and a one or two-page statement of interest. The statement should outline their:

1. reasons for wanting to pursue graduate studies
2. future career goals
3. skills and activities that have prepared them for success at university including work or volunteer experience, professional development activities, personal study and interests, and;
4. explanations/documentation for any previous poor academic performance

Students may be asked to submit samples of writing within a professional context (e.g., company reports). Individual programs may request additional materials from applicants.

Mature students may be made offers of admission with specified pre-admission and/or post-admission conditions. The conditions will be outlined in the letter of offer. (See section 17.10.3.1.)

In some cases, applicants who do not qualify for direct admission to a master's program as regular graduate students may be permitted to undertake qualifying courses or a qualifying program to bring their knowledge and skills to a level required to pursue a graduate degree in the discipline concerned. During this qualifying period, these students are classified as probationary students; they are not candidates for a degree. The qualifying courses must be specified at the time of Faculty recommendation for admission to the qualifying program. Successful completion of courses recommended by the program will permit the student to be considered for admission as a regular student.

Admission decisions may be appealed to the Dean of Graduate Studies. See section 17.10.3.3.

## **PROPOSED NEW POLICY – DEFERRAL OF OFFERS**

Applicants who are offered admission may apply to defer their application or their offer of admission by one year. Where an application is deferred, the applicant will not have to re-apply but will be reassessed for admissibility on a competitive basis in the relevant admission period. Where an offer is deferred, the applicant may register in a subsequent session within the one-year period without re-application. The deferral must be requested before the start of the term in which the student is scheduled to begin. A request for Deferral of application or deferral of offer must be made in writing to the Office of Graduate Studies