**Responsibilities of the Graduate Council**

(Approved by Graduate Council, March 17, 2021)

The Graduate Council, acting as the elected, delegate body of the Graduate Faculty, formulates Graduate School policies and is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on all matters affecting the University's graduate programs. The purpose of the Graduate Council is to promote excellence in all graduate programs. The departments and/or schools and colleges are responsible for support and management of graduate programs and the Graduate Council performs the functions of coordination and review. The responsibilities of the Graduate Council include the formulation of policy for graduate education to include such matters as student admission and retention, course load, transfer credit, research requirements, and minimal requirements for comprehensive exams, theses, and dissertations. The Council also has planning and review responsibilities to include the review of proposed new graduate programs and the periodic review of existing graduate programs. In addition, the Council determines requirements for Graduate Faculty membership; it helps promote career growth and development for graduate faculty and students;

The Council discharges many of these responsibilities through the following Standing Committees: a) The Academic Standards Committee; b) The Academic Programs Committee; c) The Research Committee; d) The Executive Committee; and e) The Membership Committee.