DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Criteria for Membership in the Graduate Faculty for Rhetoric, Composition, and the Teaching of English (RCTE)

A. Prologue:

1 As specified in UHAP Policy 3.1.04:

Members of the graduate faculty have special privileges and obligations within graduate education, especially related to thesis, dissertation and other culminating capstone project committee roles and membership, as well as graduate student advising and mentorship. Graduate faculty membership is automatically granted to tenured and tenure-track faculty and continuing-status and eligible academic professionals with faculty titles and may be granted selectively to career track faculty or others. The Graduate College, in coordination with the academic colleges and programs, oversees the criteria, processes, and procedures related to the granting, review, and in rare cases of unacceptable performance, the remediation or removal of graduate faculty membership to ensure the quality of graduate programs and delivery of graduate education.

2 The Graduate College policies governing graduate faculty membership are set out here: [https://grad.arizona.edu/policies/academic-policies/graduate-faculty-policy](https://grad.arizona.edu/policies/academic-policies/graduate-faculty-policy)

3 Members of the Graduate Faculty are expected to maintain the “Responsibilities of Graduate Faculty”, as outlined in section 4.1 of the Graduate College policy.

B. Tenured/Tenure-Eligible, Continuing Status/Eligible Academic Professionals

As per UHAP Policy 3.1.04 and section 1.1.1 of the Graduate College Graduate Faculty Policy¹, Tenure-eligible/tenured faculty and Continuing Status eligible/Continuing Status academic professionals with faculty appointments are automatically members of the Graduate Faculty in RCTE.

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¹ [https://grad.arizona.edu/policies/academic-policies/graduate-faculty-policy](https://grad.arizona.edu/policies/academic-policies/graduate-faculty-policy)
C. Members of the Graduate Faculty in Other Programs without FTE in RCTE

Faculty who are members of the Graduate Faculty in other programs but who do not hold FTE in RCTE may serve as members of the Graduate Faculty in RCTE with the following criteria:

a) Have a terminal degree in rhetoric, writing, communication, education, and/or related fields;

b) Regularly conduct research-based initiatives and publish research in rhetoric, writing, communication, education, and/or related fields.

D. Emeritus Faculty

As per section 1.1.2 of the Graduate College Graduate Faculty policy, faculty who have been awarded Emeritus status by the President of the University of Arizona are automatically members of the Graduate Faculty in their programs, so long as they continue evidence of currency in their field.

E. Criteria for membership of Career Track Faculty and Continuing Status/Eligible professionals without faculty titles.

Continuing Status and CS-Eligible academic professionals without faculty titles and Career Track Faculty may be recommended to be appointed to the Graduate Faculty in RCTE if they meet (2) of the following criteria:

a) Hold a terminal degree in Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric and Writing Studies, Education, Literacy Studies, Communications, Information Studies, Gender Women’s Studies, American Studies, Law, Ethnic and Cultural Studies;

b) Have experience conducting research as evidenced by grants, publications, or conference presentations in Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric and Writing Studies, Education, Literacy Studies, Communications, Information Studies, Gender Women’s Studies, American Studies, Law, Ethnic and Cultural Studies;

c) Have experience conducting research in industry and clinical settings as evidenced by grants, putting forward inventions of new thought systems, and publications related to their industry work;

d) Have a record of strong mentorship of graduate and undergraduate students.

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2 Note that the Graduate College does not maintain a list distinguishing among Graduate Faculty Members in different programs. It is the responsibility of each program to ensure that graduate committees are composed of program-approved members. The program does this verification when the DGS approves GradPath forms.
F. Criteria for the endorsement to chair a Doctoral Committee.  

The following additional criteria are used to determine if a member of the Graduate Faculty in RCTE has the endorsement to chair or co-chair doctoral committees. Faculty with the endorsement to chair doctoral committees are expected to maintain the responsibilities outlined in section 4.4 of the Graduate College policy.

- All members of the Graduate Faculty in RCTE shall have the endorsement to chair doctoral committees.

See also section 1.1.5 of https://grad.arizona.edu/policies/academic-policies/graduate-faculty-policy for important information about the endorsement to chair criteria.

G. Vote on Membership in RCTE Graduate Faculty

In order to add a faculty member under sections E, RCTE shall forward a nomination for approval to the Social Behavioral Sciences Dean’s office, including a current CV after a vote of all Graduate Faculty in RCTE; requiring a simple majority according to the voting rules outlined in English departmental bylaws.

Program Approval: voted to approve (6 approve, 1 abstain) on 2.25.21.

Academic College Dean’s office approval JP Jones, SBS Dean, 2.28.21

Graduate College Approval Date March 26, 2021

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3 Note that the Graduate College does not maintain a list of who is entitled to chair doctoral committees. It is the responsibility of each program to ensure that graduate committees are composed of program-approved members and are chaired by appropriately qualified faculty. The program does this verification when the DGS approves GradPath committee forms.