

Approval Process for Graduate Faculty Status (GFS)

to be a Member in a PhD or Master Committee

Approved on April 23, 2024

Vote: Yes = 15, Abstain = 1

To be granted Graduate Faculty Status (GFS), the following four major criteria must be met:

1. Need for GFS
2. Number of GFS Allowed in the Civil & Environmental Engineering & Construction(CEEC) Department
3. Qualifications of the GFS Candidate
4. GFS Voting Process

1. Need for GFS

- The GFS application can only be initiated by a member of the department's tenured or tenure-track faculty if the faculty member can demonstrate the need for a graduate student to have such an expert receive a GFS to guide his/her research activities. Without this requirement, the GFS application will not be considered.

2. Number of GFS Allowed in the CEEC Department

- The total number of GFS allowed in the department will be limited to 40% of the tenured and tenure-track faculty. The existing GFS, as of this document's date, are not included in this count. If 40% of the GFS has already been met, the faculty will vote on a request to add more.
- There are no specific GFS allocations by area of expertise.
- Allocation is on an as-needed basis, with the motivation being to serve on a graduate student dissertation or thesis committee to provide expertise beyond what is available from the department's current tenured or tenure-track faculty members.

3. Qualifications of the GFS Candidates

- ***Academic Research Institute/Agency Candidates***
 - The candidate must have a PhD in the related area and
 - must be working or recently retired at a higher education institution; or
 - must be working at a research institute, agency;
 - The candidate must be actively involved in research and have published at least 4 peer-reviewed journal articles and/or peer-reviewed conference proceedings in the last four years.
- ***Industry Candidates***
 - The candidate must have a PhD in a related area.
 - The candidate must have a PE license and/or other relevant certification, and must have at least 6 years of relevant experience.
 - The candidate must have made at least two presentations within the last 4 years at regional or national conferences and/or authored other technical reports that demonstrate the candidate's expertise.

4. GFS Voting Process

- Voting by tenured or tenure-track faculty members of the CEEC department on any GFS application must be confidential.