

Pro Tip: Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

The Executive Council of Graduate Faculty enhances and guides graduate education at KU by serving as a robust and comprehensive faculty governance body advising the Dean of Graduate Studies. The Executive Council (EC) sets the course for the future of graduate education by taking responsibility for policy development and by exercising the authority to conduct procedural oversight. As part of the broader restructuring of the Office of Graduate Studies, the established practices concerning membership and responsibilities are under revision to improve the EC's effectiveness and elevate regard for its work. This fall semester, EC will begin the process of developing bylaws, including consideration of the nomination process for future EC members.

Responsibilities

The EC will take a proactive role in developing, revising, and implementing policies, procedures, and best practices appropriate to graduate education at a national research institution. They will provide leadership by exercising active oversight of policy proposal and approval, representing the graduate faculty on all policy work groups convened by Graduate Studies, and leading efforts to identify needs and propose solutions. The EC will take responsibility for approving membership on the Graduate Faculty and evaluating candidates for the funding awards managed by Graduate Studies. They will also review and decide petitions for exception to Graduate Studies policy. EC's oversight of major decisions such as Graduate Faculty membership and policy exceptions requires a reasonable timeline for faculty review of the relevant considerations. Since EC will meet approximately every three weeks, both Graduate Faculty nominations and petitions for exception should be submitted with these timeframes in mind. The Council's discussions and decisions will take place primarily during the regularly scheduled meetings, though consent agendas, subcommittees, and electronic voting between meetings may be used to maintain efficient and timely processing. Emergency situations will be considered outside the regular meeting schedule.

Ready? Set... Go!

Exciting News, Save the Date!

Please review the extensive list of exciting activities on our [Upcoming Events](#) page.

Start the Semester Right

- Please nominate all new-hire faculty who will serve on exam committees for membership on the Graduate Faculty. We would appreciate receiving these nominations as soon as possible so that the Executive Council of Graduate Faculty can approve them in their early fall meetings.
- Multi-factor authentication is coming and it's for grad students (and postdocs) too! Anyone with an employment relationship with KU will need to use the Duo second-factor authentication process when accessing anything behind KU's single-sign-on. Individuals may choose to enroll early, which we encourage, but all employees will be required to use Duo as of October 1st. For more information, please visit [KU's Duo website](#).

New Graduate Student Orientation

Graduate Studies was proud to host our second annual New Graduate Student Orientation from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on August 23rd, in Capitol Federal Hall. This campus-wide orientation gives incoming graduate students the opportunity to meet other new students from across disciplines, get acquainted with essential campus resources and offices, and learn a little bit about what Lawrence has to offer them and their families. Feedback about this year's event has been very positive and we are already looking forward to another great orientation next August. More information about the event can be found on our [website](#).

Thank you to Interim Provost Carl Lejuez for agreeing to give the orientation welcome and to staff from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the schools of Business and Engineering, and International Support Services, who collaborated with Graduate Studies on planning the event.

Doctoral Hooding Survey

Graduate Studies circulated a survey this summer among the 2018-2019 doctoral candidates who were invited to participate in the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony in May. We sought feedback about their experience with the event as well as processes leading up to it, such as requesting tickets. We also asked for their thoughts and preferences about what would constitute an ideal location. We will review their feedback and incorporate as much as possible as we plan for the future of the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony.

