**Ad hoc committee on Graduate Council Constitution and Bylaws, Recommendations 2/18/2016**

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Three issues are addressed by the proposed changes to the Grad Council Constitution and Bylaws and Grad Faculty Handbook:

1. Adoption of a leadership succession procedure for Grad Council to enhance continuity of actions.
2. Clarification of voting rights and procedures for Grad Council
3. Unification of Grad Council Constitution and Grad Faculty Handbook regarding policies for Term Graduate Faculty Membership.

**Summary**:

* Grad Council adopts a procedure to elect a Vice-chair to succeed the Chair; outgoing Chair remains on Grad Council for one year to assist the Chair and Vice-chair.
* Revisions to the Grad Council Constitution and Bylaws clarify the roles of graduate student and postdoc representatives, and
* Graduate Council appoint a standing Graduate Faculty Membership Committee that reviews nominations for Term Graduate Faculty Membership.
  + Criteria used by the committee are not based on nominee’s title, but are in line with Higher Learning Commission guidelines
* Graduate Handbook should be revised for consistency and clarity regarding the roles of the Graduate Faculty Membership Committee and Department Chairs.

**Attachments**:

* Proposed revisions to Grad Council Constitution and Bylaws
* Proposed revisions to Grad Faculty Handbook
* Higher Learning Commission guidelines for faculty qualifications