



EARTH & SPACE SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

College of the Environment

Graduate Students on Departmental Committees Policy

The goals are to provide input from graduate students that could be overlooked by faculty and to provide experience to graduate students in departmental governance. A graduate student member of a committee will be bound by the same rules of conduct regarding confidentiality and impartiality as faculty members. The department Chair will invite a graduate student to serve on a committee with consideration of the academic experience, special interests, skills and personal qualities relevant to the task of the committee. No graduate student will be required to participate on a departmental committee.

Departmental committees will have graduate student members with the following exceptions:

- No appropriate and willing graduate student can be found for a committee.
- Temporary ad hoc committees set up by the faculty to gather information and make recommendations about governance issues. There need not be a graduate student member, although one may be invited to serve when that is judged desirable by the faculty.
- Promotion and tenure committees. These committees may seek student input, but there will not be a graduate student member.
- Admissions committees: These committees may seek graduate student input, but no graduate student will be present during discussion of applicant transcripts, letters of recommendation, or test scores.
- Prelim Exam: The graduate student representative may be present during the research presentation and oral examination, but not during discussion by the faculty committee of the student's record or during formulation of the outcome to be recommended to the faculty. In addition, the graduate student representative may not be from the same research group as the student being examined. [revised 01/16/04]
- Executive Committee: There will not be a graduate student representative on this committee.

[Updated 2/10/24]