Policy: 05-10-00

Graduate Programs Governance

OFFICE OF RECORD: Office of Graduate Studies and Research
ISSUED BY: Dean of Graduate Studies and Research
APPROVED BY: 05-10-00
EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/02/02 (Revised 9/11/07)

The South Dakota Board of Regents has authorized DSU to offer graduate degrees at the master's and doctoral levels. DSU graduate programs are a logical extension of the University's mission and provide rigorous, advanced education in programs that meet this mission. DSU graduate programs combine both theoretical knowledge and practical applications and are designed to meet the needs of a world being shaped by continuously and rapidly changing technology. Computer technology is integral to all programs.

Policy

It is University policy that all graduate programs will be governed according to the following structure:

• **Vice President for Academic Affairs and Graduate Programs Office:**

  The Vice President for Academic Affairs will meet regularly with the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, the deans of the colleges, the Graduate Council, and institutional committees and advisory groups such as Institutional Effectiveness Committee to discuss graduate education at DSU.

• **Dean of Graduate Studies and Research:**

  The Dean is the chief academic and administrative officer of the Graduate Programs. Responsible to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean is the primary advocate for graduate education at the university with responsibilities including strategic planning, policy formulation and implementation, and assurance of academic integrity and quality of academic programs. Central to this role is promoting academic research and linking graduate education with the University's sponsored research activities. The Dean of Graduate Studies and Research has oversight responsibilities for: new program development; program assessment; program promotion and
recruitment; application, admission and graduation; scheduling and registration.

- Office of Graduate Studies and Research:

The Office of Graduate Studies and Research oversees all aspects of graduate education at Dakota State University including the development, administration, termination, and assessment of graduate programs, the admission and guidance of graduate students, the granting of graduate degrees, and the implementation of graduate policies.

See DSU Policy 05-11-00, Office of Graduate Studies and Research.

- Graduate Council:

The Graduate Council serves as the faculty body that oversees graduate education, plans for the future of graduate education in the broadest terms and guides the evolution of graduate programs at DSU. The Graduate Council is responsible for all academic policies related to post-baccalaureate study and degree programs.

For more information see DSU Policy 05-40-00 Graduate Council.

- Graduate Program Committees:

Each graduate program will have a program committee that is responsible for supervision and oversight of the graduate work in their program and manages day-to-day activities of the graduate program under the leadership of the graduate program coordinator. The program committee handles the specifics of program curriculum, instruction, advising, and scheduling. The program committee report on their activities on an annual basis to the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research and to the Graduate Council through their graduate program coordinator.

See DSU Policy 05-41-00, Graduate Program Committees.

- Graduate Program Coordinators:

Each graduate program will have a program coordinator who shall supervise and coordinate the administration of the program, serve as a point of contact for graduate students enrolled in the program, and provide a linkage between the graduate program committee and the graduate faculty in their respective colleges. They also act as a liaison between the program committee and the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.
See DSU Policy 05-12-00, Graduate Program Coordinators.

- **Graduate Faculty:**

  Graduate faculty serve on graduate program committees to ensure program integrity and on Graduate Council to assist with oversight of graduate programs and policy.

  See DSU Policy 05-21-00, Graduate Faculty.

- **College Deans:**

  College deans work with the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research to ensure the quality and integrity of graduate programs in their respective colleges. They are specifically responsible for course delivery and faculty workload issues.