Bylaws - Fellows of the Graduate College

**I. Purpose and Objectives**

The **Fellows of The Graduate College** recognize distinguished researchers and scholars from throughout the University of Cincinnati. In addition to their outstanding individual accomplishments, Fellows are generally among the most experienced and accomplished graduate-student mentors at the University.

New Fellows are elected annually by the current Fellows and then appointed for life by the Board of Trustees. Criteria for election include evidence of outstanding scholarly and/or artistic attainment. The Fellows therefore constitute a significant resource of talent, experience, and intellect at the University.

While election is intended partly to honor distinguished faculty, Fellows meet regularly to discuss matters arising at the University. The Fellows have functioned in important advisory roles in graduate education and research, including planning and development for the Upper Administration. Fellows are also called upon regularly to provide feedback on new initiatives and review research proposals at all levels of the University.

The Fellows of the Graduate College report to the Vice President for Research and the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies/Dean of the Graduate College.

**II. Officers of the Fellows of the Graduate College**

**A. Chair of the Fellows of the Graduate College.** The Chair shall serve a two-year term, beginning in Fall Semester.

**Duties of the Chair:**

The Fellows of the Graduate College, through the Chair, shall serve as a resource to the leadership of the University of Cincinnati.

The Chair shall appoint members to all standing committees. All appointments should be made with consideration to encouraging broader participation, including diversity by discipline and membership. All appointments must be reevaluated at least after 3 years.

The Chair shall plan and schedule the General Membership Meetings. The Fellows will meet at least three times in an Academic year (Fall, Winter and Spring). The Spring Meeting typically involves induction of the newly elected Fellows. The program for the other meetings will be set by the Chair in consultation with the Executive Committee. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

The Chair will have the authority to develop new initiatives and establish any ad hoc committees as needed.

The Chair will provide one representative to the Rieveschl Award for Creative and/or Scholarly Works Committee

**B. Chair-Elect.** A Chair-elect will be elected at the beginning of the Chair’s second year and become the next Chair.

**Duties of the Chair-Elect:**

The Chair-Elect shall serve on the Executive Committee and assume the duties of Chair if needed.

**III. The Faculty Membership**

Fellows must be full time members of the active UC faculty at the time of election.

They must have demonstrated excellence in all of the following areas:

(1) National/international professional stature;

(2) An extensive record of research/creative/scholarly works in chosen field of work (including publications, exhibitions, presentations, and other significant academic accomplishments);

(3) An extensive record of significant contributions and commitment to graduate and/or post-graduate education (as evidenced by such activities as research mentoring, teaching, and/or oversight of graduate programs and activities); and

(4) A demonstrated record of significant leadership and service within or beyond the University as evidenced by, but not limited to, such activities as committee memberships, and/or leadership positions at the department, college, University or national levels.

Appointments to the Graduate Fellows:

The university President, upon recommendation of the Fellows and the Provost, shall propose new Graduate Fellows annually to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees must approve all Graduate Fellow appointments, and these appointments are lifelong.

Removal of a Graduate Fellow:

In extreme cases, the Executive Committee may consider bringing action to revoke the appointment of a member found to have committed illegal activities or sanctioned for inappropriate/unprofessional behavior by other bodies (for example, honorary or professional societies).  If deemed appropriate, the Executive Committee shall put forward a motion to recommend dismissal of a member for vote by the entire membership.  A simple majority of the votes cast shall be sufficient to recommend dismissal.

A Fellow may appeal dismissal to the Dean of the Graduate College and the Vice President for Research.  If the appeal is not granted, the recommendation for dismissal will be passed on to the Board of Trustees for a final ruling.

**IV. Standing Committees**

**A. Executive Committee**

The executive committee shall consist of the Chair, and Chair-Elect (in the years when that position is occupied), and the Chairs of the standing committees. The Chair may appoint other Fellows to serve on the Executive Committee, with particular attention to provide representation of different disciplines and to promote diversity.

The Chair may designate someone to serve as a Communications Officer. This individual will be responsible for keeping records and providing information to update the website.

The executive committee will meet regularly, but at least before the General Membership meetings to discuss the meeting Agendas.

## B. Membership Committee

## The Chair of the Membership committee, in consultation with the Chair of the Graduate Fellows, will determine the composition of the Membership Committee. Individuals shall be appointed to 3-year terms, at which time renewal of the appointment may be considered. Efforts will be made to include diverse representation reflecting the different disciplines and the faculty of the University of Cincinnati.

## The Chair of the Membership Committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Graduate Fellows for a 3-year term, at which time renewal of appointment may be considered. The Chair of the Membership Committee shall officiate over election for new members.

## C. Distinguished Speakers Committee

## Individuals shall be appointed to 3-year terms, at which time renewal of the appointment may be considered. Efforts will be made to include diverse representation reflecting the different disciplines and the faculty of the University of Cincinnati.

## The seminars hosted by the Speakers Committee are supported by a generous endowment from the Sidney E. Miller visiting lectureship fund, and this source of support will be acknowledged in the seminar announcements.

## D. Rieveschl Award Committee

## The George Rieveschl Jr. Award for Distinguished Scientific Research was created through the generosity of Dr. George Rieveschl. This award recognizes a member of the faculty for professional achievement in science in a STEMM discipline (science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or medicine). The award for Distinguished Scientific Research can be given for a specific research accomplishment, or the entire canon of one’s accomplishment. The emphasis is on research achievement while serving as a faculty member of the University of Cincinnati.

## Members of the Rieveschl Award for Distinguished Scientific Research committee will be appointed for a single 3-year term, although they may serve a second term if chosen by the Chair of the Fellows. Efforts will be made to include diverse representation reflecting the different STEMM disciplines and the faculty of the University of Cincinnati.

## A second Rieveschl Award for Creative and/or Scholarly Works Committee is administered by a separate committee.

**V. Elections and Voting**

Elections for new members will be run by the Membership Committee. Elections for new Chair/Chair-Elect and other issues will be run by the current Chair of the Fellows or his/her designee. Elections will be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast by the Fellows of the Graduate College.

**VI. General Membership meetings**

The Fellows shall hold meeting for the General Membership at least three times per year, Fall, Winter, and Spring. The Spring meeting typically will include introduction of the newly elected Fellows.

**VII. Amendments to the Bylaws**

Proposed amendments to the Bylaws will be submitted for initial consideration by the Executive Committee, and then forwarded to the membership for further deliberation, and a vote. A simple majority of those who vote is needed for an amendment to pass. Final proposed changes to the bylaws must be submitted to the Vice President for Research and the Dean of the Graduate College for approval.

**VIII. Relevant University Rules**

These bylaws are in agreement with the relevant university rules: 3361:10-5-10, 3361:50-77-01, and 3361:50-15-03.