

University Committee on Graduate Student Success and Retention

Mission.

The mission of the University Committee on Graduate Student Success and Retention shall be to examine the comprehensive graduate student experience at UL Lafayette in an effort to improve graduate student retention and graduation rates without compromising the high quality of our graduate programs.

Charge.

The University Committee on Graduate Student Success and Retention shall work with the Graduate School and the Graduate Council to support the retention and success of students in both degree and non-degree graduate programs. In doing so, and in partnership with other campus constituencies, it shall assess graduate student needs, reasons for stop out and dropout, and barriers to completion; professional development for career success; University services and student affairs support systems for graduate students; and other retention-related topics.

The committee is charged more specifically with the responsibility

- to collect and analyze data regarding graduate student retention;
- to identify factors and develop recommendations for policies or interventions to improve graduate student success; and
- to report annually its findings and recommendations.

The committee shall submit a written report annually to the Graduate Council on its general findings and broad recommendations; this report shall be shared at the annual meeting of the Graduate Faculty. It shall also provide annually a more detailed report, including data gathered/assessed and detailed justification for recommendations made, to the Dean of the Graduate School and the Provost.

Membership.

More than fifty percent of the membership of University Committee on Graduate Student Success and Retention shall at all times be comprised of members of the UL Lafayette Graduate Faculty. Faculty membership shall include at least one member from each graduate-degree granting college. Ex-officio members shall include: the Dean of the Graduate School (or his/her designee from the Graduate School), the chairperson of the Graduate Council (or his/her designee from the Graduate Council), the Vice President for Research (or his/her designee from the Office of Research), the Director of Equity, Diversity, and Community Engagement, and the Director of the Office of International Affairs. The Dean of the Graduate School shall appoint the Graduate Faculty members of the committee for a three-year term. Annually, the Dean of the Graduate School shall select the chair of the committee from the Graduate Faculty membership of the committee.

Approved by the Council May 12, 2015

Approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, June 29, 2015