Policy Number: 102

Subject/Title: Doctoral Committee Structure

Effective Date: Fall 2011

Policy Statement: Doctoral committees will be structured according to the following:

PRE-EXAM Committee
* Advisor (same department required)

* 2nd member (“minor” department/discipline)
* 3rd member (“breadth” department/discipline) must represent different departments
  4th member (optional)

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS NOT REQUIRED PRIOR TO PRELIMINARY EXAM, BUT MAY BE ADDED

POST EXAM Committee

DrPH Dissertation Committee
* Advisor (major department required)
* 2nd member (“minor” department/discipline)
* 3rd member (“breadth” department/discipline) must represent different departments
  4th member (optional/ may be dissertation supervisor)

PhD – Dissertation Committee
* Advisor (major department/discipline required)
* 2nd member (“minor” department/discipline)
* 3rd member (“breadth” department/discipline) must represent different departments
  4th member (optional/may be dissertation supervisor)

NOTES:
- *UTHealth School of Public Health Faculty = a paid assistant, associate or full professor; with a primary appointment at the school
- Discipline = Biostatistics; Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences; Epidemiology; Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences; Management, Policy and Community Health
- Academic Advisor = Chair of committee
- Any committee member may serve as the supervisor for the project
- ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS CAN NOT BE PRIMARY FACULTY IN ONE DEPARTMENT
- Certificate(s) – if applicable, must be represented on committee
- Minor = 9 credit hours and at least 3 courses beyond the core
**Reason for Policy:** The proposed committee structure was developed to facilitate faculty mentoring of students based on major, certificate (if applicable), degree program and culminating experience option.

**Definitions:** N/A

**Scope and Audience:** Students matriculating Fall 2011 and onward

**Responsibilities and Procedures:** Outlined above; Primary advisor assigned upon admission. Students elect to add committee members based on dissertation project.

**Related Policies, Forms and Information:** Doctoral Committee Structure Forms (Proposal and Dissertation)

**History:** Developed and approved in Fall 2010 to coincide with change in qualifying exam to preliminary exam and proposal and dissertation defense(s).

- Academic Council Approved: October 19, 2010
- Executive Council Approved: October 21, 2010

**Responsible Office/Contact Information:** Nesh Aqrawi
Office of Academic Affairs and Student Services
Office Phone: 713-500-9071
E-mail: nesh.aqrawi@uth.tmc.edu