

UL Lafayette College of Engineering Graduate Faculty Criteria

The UL Lafayette College of Engineering requires that a faculty member must have appropriate credentials befitting to a faculty member that the UL Lafayette Engineering College Community would want him or her to serve as a good mentor to the next generation of graduate-degreed engineers. To accomplish this goal and realizing that differences in the expectations of mentoring MS versus PhD students exist within the field of Engineering and Technology Education, two levels of Graduate Faculty status are available to faculty: Level 1 (MS Level) and Level 2 (PhD Level).

Only actively employed tenured/tenure-track faculty may serve as sole major professor and/or committee chair. Professors of practice, instructors, and qualified research staff may be considered as sole major professor/committee chair if they are appropriately credentialed as Level 1 or 2 members of the graduate faculty; this allowance must be initiated by the individual's department head and will require approval of the department head and the College Peer Review Committee; such approval will be conveyed to the Graduate School by the department head and the Chairperson of the Peer Review Committee.

Faculty from the College of Science or adjunct faculty within the college who do not hold an engineering degree(s) cannot serve as sole major professor and/or committee chair for College of Engineering graduate students. They may serve as co-major professor/co-committee chair if appropriately credentialed as Level 1 or 2 members of the graduate faculty. This allowance must be initiated by the individual's department head and have approval of the department head and the College Peer Review Committee; such approval will be conveyed to the Graduate School by the department head and the Chairperson of the Peer Review Committee. Computer Science faculty, if appropriately credentialed as a member of the graduate faculty, may serve as major professor to EECE graduate students.

The criteria and rights for membership in the two levels are as follows:

Level 1: MS Level

Authority Provided – Appointment at Level 1 qualifies individuals to chair a MS graduate student committee and to serve on both MS and Ph.D. committees.

Credentials – An individual must hold a Ph.D. or a similar terminal degree within an appropriate field.

Level 2: PhD Level

Authority Provided – Appointment at Level 2 qualifies individuals to chair both Ph.D. and MS graduate student committees and to serve on both Ph.D. and MS committees.

Credentials – detailed below:

1. An individual must meet the membership criteria for Level 1 membership on the Graduate Faculty.

2. An individual must have published peer-reviewed publications within archival, professional journals at a minimum rate of at least two over a five year period from the date of application. Starting Fall 2018, the journals publishing the two papers should have a minimum impact factor 0.5.
3. New tenure-track/tenured faculty in the College of Engineering, including those who have received their terminal degree within three years of appointment at UL Lafayette, may be granted Level 2 status without meeting the above criteria. This status will be reviewed for renewal after five years from this original appointment.

Implementation of Policy

1. Applicant must complete the application by the appropriate deadline on the Graduate School website and upload the required shortened curriculum vitae, covering only the most recent five years (and any supplemental materials) according the University Guidelines for Graduate Faculty Membership.
2. Level 2 applications provided to the College for review that do not include supporting copies of publications will be returned to the Graduate School without College review.
3. Beginning in Fall 2018, proof of journal Impact Factor for each publication shall be required as supplemental materials to the application.
4. Each application will go through three independent and concurrent reviews by three entities within the college:
 - A. College Peer Review Committee
 - B. Department Head
 - C. Dean
5. The applications will be provided to the three college review entities by the Graduate School.
6. The Chairperson of the Peer Review Committee, the Department Head, and the Dean are responsible for submitting their independent recommendations, with narratives supporting those recommendations, for every application to the Dean of the Graduate School in a timely manner that is consistent with the deadlines established by the Graduate School.
7. The Chairperson of the Peer Review Committee and the Department Head will also submit a copy of their recommendations to the Dean. This copy will be used by the dean in his/her evaluation as more information.
8. The recommendations of the three college review entities will be provided to the Graduate School, which will forward through the remainder of the review process as stated in the University Guidelines for Graduate Faculty Membership.

Approved by Dr. James Henderson, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, January 13, 2016.

Revised by the College of Engineering, Spring 2017

Revisions approved by Dr. David Danahar, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, August 7, 2017.