5.3 **Standing Faculty Committees**

The standing faculty committees of the college and university actively participate in the governance of the college and university as specified in this section and Part I. The standing committees report to the Joint Faculty Assembly, except that campus-specific standing committees report to the appropriate assembly for that campus. The standing faculty committees are:

a. Faculty Governance Committee (Section 5.3.1)

b. Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee (Section 5.3.2)
   1. Computing Subcommittee (Section 5.3.2)
   2. Assessment Subcommittee (Section 5.3.2.4)

c. Curriculum Committee (Section 5.3.3)

d. Academic Planning and Budget Committee (Section 5.3.4)

e. Faculty Development and Research Committee (Section 5.3.5)

f. College of Saint Benedict Rank and Tenure Committee (Section 5.3.6)

g. Saint John’s University Rank and Tenure Committee (Section 5.3.7)

h. Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee (Section 5.3.8)

i. Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee (Section 5.3.9)

j. Graduate Theological Studies Committee (Section 5.3.10)

5.3.0.1 **General Procedures for Standing Faculty Committees**

a. Faculty service on a standing faculty committee or as an officer of the faculty is an integral part of a faculty member’s responsibility.

b. Voting for joint standing committees is by the joint faculty, including those positions which are designated as College of Saint Benedict or Saint John’s University representatives. Voting for campus-specific committees is by members of the corresponding faculty only.

c. Voting for division and School of Theology representatives will be done solely by members of that division or the School. When there is a designated School of Theology representative on a committee, School of Theology faculty members vote only for the School of Theology representative. When there is no designated School of Theology representative on a committee, faculty members of the School of Theology will vote with the Humanities Division, except that
faculty members of the School of Theology who hold a joint appointment in a
department outside the Humanities Division will vote with the division with which
that department is associated.

For the purpose of elections to standing committees, departments will be associated
with divisions as follows:

- **Fine Arts Division**—Art, Music, Theater;
- **Humanities Division**—Communication, English, History, Modern and
  Classical Languages, Hispanic Studies, Philosophy, Theology;
- **Natural Science Division**—Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Computer
  Science, Geology, Mathematics, Nursing, Nutrition, Physics;
- **Social Science Division**—Accounting and Finance, Economics, Education,
  Management, Military Science, Peace Studies, Physical Education, Political

d. The Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee (FHEC) or a designated
   Subcommittee supervises the elections of faculty members to standing
   committees and to faculty offices. Elections are normally held during spring
   semester. Ballot nominations from the FHEC will be presented to the Joint
   Faculty Assembly, permitting nomination from the floor. Elections shall be
   conducted by electronic ballot, with confidentiality of ballots ensured by the
   FHEC. In the case of election ties, the FHEC may, at its discretion, rerun the
   election or toss a coin to determine the winner.

e. Should a vacancy occur among the elected members of a committee, the FGC
   appoints a new member to serve the remainder of the academic year. Election
   to complete the remainder of the term will take place at the next scheduled
   election. Terms of office start during the last committee meeting of the spring
   semester but not earlier than four weeks before the last day of final
   examinations.

f. If the elected members of a committee are to serve multiple-year terms, the
   terms are staggered to insure continuity.

g. An *ex officio* member of a committee is one who becomes a member by virtue of
   an office held. Consultant members, including student representatives, are
   appointed to assist the deliberations of the committee and to facilitate
   communication to appropriate offices, administrative areas and student
   governments. Such members have the same rights and responsibilities as do
   other members of the committee with the exception of voting rights, which are
   stipulated below.
h. Only elected, appointed or ex-officio faculty members of standing committees vote on matters before the committee. Ex-officio administrative members and consultants are not voting members of standing faculty committees or subcommittees.

i. Each newly constituted standing committee and subcommittee meets in the spring to elect its chair and begin its work for the coming year. Unless otherwise noted, the chair of the committee is to be chosen from the tenured faculty members of the committee. Subcommittees may be chaired by non-tenured faculty members.

j. All faculty members, administrative officers, and students of the college and university are welcome to attend standing committee meetings, except portions of meetings designated by the committee as executive session. Any business pertaining to institutional policies and procedures is considered to be non-confidential and may not be discussed in executive session; any business which reviews, evaluates, or proposes action pertaining to a particular faculty member, student, group of individual faculty members, or group of individual students is considered confidential and must be discussed in executive session.

5.3.0.2 Committee Chairs

Each standing committee has a chair. The responsibilities of the chair are to:

a. serve as a voting member of the FGC;

b. report proposals and requests of the committee to the proper channels;

c. respond to proposals and requests on behalf of the committee;

d. establish the agenda for committee meetings and notify faculty and administration of the times of meetings;

e. oversee the maintenance of minutes and records, report non-confidential portions of the minutes as specified by the FGC, and make them available to the faculty, the Associate Provost and Academic Dean, the Provost, and Presidents of the College/University;

f. submit an annual report to the FGC;

g. communicate regularly with other chairs when there are matters of shared concern before the committee;

h. transmit recommendations on changes in policy and procedure to the FGC; and

i. periodically summarize the committee’s non-confidential activities for the appropriate assembly.
5.3.1 Faculty Governance Committee (FGC)

The Faculty Governance Committee (FGC) is charged with constituting the committees of the Joint Faculty Assembly and the committees of the separate assemblies for Saint John’s University and the College of Saint Benedict; with ensuring communication among the committees, between the committees and the Joint Faculty Assembly, between faculty committees and the administration, and between the committees and the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John’s University community as a whole; with keeping a record of the actions and deliberations of the Joint Faculty Assembly and its committees; and with setting the agenda for the Joint Faculty Assembly.

5.3.1.1 Composition

The members of the Faculty Governance Committee are, ex-officio:

a. the Chair of the Joint Faculty Assembly, who will serve as Chair of the Committee;
b. the Vice-Chair of the Joint Faculty Assembly; and
c. the Chairs of each of the Standing Faculty Committees;

Ex-officio administrative members are:

d. The Provost or a delegate appointed by the Provost.

Consultants are:

e. the Parliamentarian of the Joint Faculty Assembly.

5.3.1.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Faculty Governance Committee are to:

a. coordinate the work of the joint faculty committees by:
   1. maintaining a manual of the policies and procedures of the Joint Faculty Assembly and its committees,
   2. resolving jurisdictional issues among committees of the assemblies,
   3. monitoring the effectiveness of the committee structure and recommending adjustments or changes when necessary,
4. arranging for reports, at least once a year, from each standing committee to the Joint Faculty Assembly,
5. posting and preserving minutes of the Joint Faculty Assembly,
6. amending and certifying minutes of the Joint Faculty Assembly, and
7. when appropriate, appointing or arranging for the election of members of Faculty Standing Committees when vacancies occur outside of the normal elections process;

b. formulate, prepare and distribute:
   1. an annual calendar of meetings of the Joint Faculty Assembly each June for the following academic year and
   2. the agenda for each meeting of the Joint Faculty Assembly;

c. oversee the grievance process, according to Handbook 4.1.1, when the Faculty Handbook and Election Committee files a grievance;

d. coordinate faculty participation in all phases of the development and execution of the institutional strategic planning process;

e. appoint faculty members to serve as non-voting members on Board of Regents/Trustees committees, as requested;

f. coordinate faculty participation in any review of the academic administration;

g. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary;

h. and initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

5.3.2 Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee (APSAC)

The Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee oversees the quality and functioning of the entire undergraduate academic program and formulates guidelines for achieving and maintaining integrity and excellence in academic programs.

5.3.2.1 Composition

The members of the Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee are:

a. seven faculty members, elected to three-year terms—one elected from each of the four academic divisions and three elected at large. At least four of the faculty members must be tenured.

Ex-officio administrative members are:
b. the Provost or a delegate appointed by the Provost, and  
c. the Associate Provost and Academic Dean.

Consultants are:

d. The Registrar, the Director of Academic Advising, the Director of the Libraries, and a representative of Information Technology Services, and,
e. two students, one from each college, appointed by their respective student governments.

5.3.2.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee are to follow.

a. The general duties of the Committee are to:

1. formulate guidelines for achieving and maintaining integrity and excellence in academic programs,

2. oversee the quality and functioning of the entire undergraduate academic program,

3. from the faculty at large, identify and appoint one faculty representative to the College of Saint Benedict Admissions Committee, one faculty representative to the Saint John’s University Admissions Committee, and two faculty representatives to the Calendar Committee, reasonable efforts being made to ensure that faculty representatives to the Calendar Committee will be housed in separate academic divisions.

4. obtain relevant external and internal information needed for planning or making recommendations,

5. communicate to Academic Planning and Budget Committee regarding budget and resource needs based on academic planning and priorities as they relate to the curriculum,

6. identify and appoint members, from the faculty at-large, to the Computing Subcommittee,

7. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary, and

8. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.
b. The Committee’s duties on Academic Policies are to:
   1. review, prioritize, and recommend revisions to the learning goals and objectives of the colleges, when requested by the FGC;
   2. review, when requested by the FGC, the relationship between curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular learning in order to maintain excellence in academic programming;
   3. report recommended policy changes to the Joint Faculty Assembly at least annually; and
   4. review Strategic Priority Initiative proposals involving the academic area and forward recommendations to the Provost.

c. The Committee’s duties on Academic Standards are to:
   1. create, periodically review, and revise academic policies that relate to the Registrar, library, media, calendar;
   2. address policies on other academic matters not specifically assigned to other standing committees;
   3. establish, periodically review, and revise -- in cooperation with the Offices of Admissions and Academic Advising -- academic standards for admission, academic probation and dismissal, and graduation.

d. The Committee reports annually to the Joint Faculty Assembly on the aggregate findings of program assessment and review, and when appropriate, recommends action.

e. The Committee provides consultation to institutional accreditation self-study teams.

5.3.2.3 Computing Subcommittee

The Computing Subcommittee makes recommendations to the Provost concerning policies, long-range plans, and short-range plans for academic computing and oversees the implementation of these policies and plans.

5.3.2.3.1 Composition

The members of the Computing Subcommittee are:
a. four faculty members, appointed by the Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee to three-year terms — one from each of the four academic divisions.

Consultants are:
b. the Director of Information Technology Services,
c. the Director of Technology Support Services,
d. the Academic Technology Project Leader, and
e. the Director of Libraries and Media Services or an appointed representative.

5.3.2.3.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Computing Subcommittee are to:

a. recommend and review guidelines and standards for the purchase and distribution of computer technology for academic computing on the two campuses;
b. review capital computing requests annually in light of established guidelines and standards;
c. review academic computing needs on the two campuses periodically, as needed or requested, and provide guidelines to meet those needs;
d. recommend and review long-range plans for academic computing on the two campuses;
e. work with the Academic Planning and Budget Committee to assess the budgetary implications of academic computing in short-range and long-range university planning;
f. recommend and review policies and procedures for use of computing technology on the two campuses;
g. advise the Faculty Development and Research Committee in developing guidelines and determining funding for academic computing requests for faculty development;
h. review the staffing needs of Information Technology Services and participate in the selection of any professional staff required;
i. foster discussion and communication of Information Technology Services issues and concerns as they impact academic issues;
j. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary;
k. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities; and  
l. report findings and recommendations to the Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee.

5.3.2.4 Assessment Subcommittee

The Assessment Subcommittee oversees the assessment of learning in departments and programs. Its purpose is to ensure high quality academic experiences so that students may achieve institutional and departmental learning goals.

5.3.2.4.1 Composition

The members of the Assessment Subcommittee are:

a. four faculty members, appointed by the Academic Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee to three-year terms — one from each of the four academic divisions.

Ex-officio administrative members are:

b. the Provost or a delegate appointed by the Provost. and  
c. the Associate Provost and Academic Dean.

Consultants are:

d. two students, one from each college, appointed by their respective student governments, and  
e. the Director of Academic Assessment.

5.3.2.4.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Assessment Subcommittee are to:

1. establish, review, and revise policies and procedures related to the periodic review of departments and programs for assessment that are congruent with institutional missions and external accreditation requirements;

2. provide timely information to the faculty regarding assessment policies and procedures, accreditation guidelines, and developments in the field of assessment;

3. propose and review institutional academic assessment initiatives;
4. review changes in or updates to departmental and program mission statements, goals, and assessment plans;

5. monitor departmental and program assessment findings and reviews to assure that policies and standards are being followed;

6. create and revise policies regarding the assessment of Common Curriculum courses and programs;

7. create and revise policies regarding the collection of long term data concerning the Common Curriculum and student learning within the Common Curriculum; and

8. report findings and recommendations to the Academic, Policies, Standards, and Assessment Committee.

5.3.3 The Curriculum Committee (CC)

The Curriculum Committee oversees the quality and functioning of the curriculum, including the Common Curriculum.

5.3.3.1 Composition

The members of the Curriculum Committee are:

a. seven faculty, elected to three-year terms—one elected from each of the four academic divisions and three elected at large. At least three of the faculty members must be tenured.

Ex-officio administrative members are:

b. the Provost or a delegate appointed by the Provost, and
c. the Associate Provost and Academic Dean.

Consultants are:

d. the Registrar, the Director of Academic Advising, the Director of the Libraries,
e. two students, one from Saint John's University and one from the College of Saint Benedict, appointed by their respective student governments, and
f. the Director of the Common Curriculum.
g. In addition, when deemed appropriate by the Committee Chair, other faculty members who are charged with administration of the Common Curriculum may serve as consultants.

5.3.3.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Curriculum Committee are to:

a. oversee the ongoing development of the academic curriculum, including the Common Curriculum;
b. create, review, and revise policies relating to the curriculum;
c. review and act on proposals for new courses;
d. review and act on proposals for revisions in majors, minors, and programs;
e. recommend to the Joint Faculty Assembly the addition or deletion of majors, minors, and programs;
f. propose revisions in the Common Curriculum to the Joint Faculty Assembly;
g. review and act on proposals for Common Curriculum designations;
h. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary; and
i. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

5.3.4 Academic Planning and Budget Committee (APBC)

The Academic Planning and Budget Committee represents the faculty in the joint institutional strategic planning process and advises the Provost on matters of budgeting and long-range programmatic, fiscal, and personnel planning for the academic areas. Although the committee regularly considers those matters referred to it by the Provost, it may also respond to charges given it by the Joint Faculty Assembly and may initiate its own studies. The committee is charged with seeing that curricular planning meets the institutional missions and visions of the College and University.

5.3.4.1 Composition

The members of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee are:

a. seven faculty members, elected to three-year terms—one faculty member from each of the four academic divisions, and three faculty members elected at-large. At least three of the faculty members must be tenured.

Ex-officio administrative members are:
b. the Provost or a delegate appointed by the Provost, and  
c. the Associate Provost and Academic Dean.

Consultants are:  
d. the Dean of the School of Theology,  
e. the Associate Dean,  
f. the Academic Budget Analyst, and  
g. the Vice President for Enrollment, Planning, and Public Affairs.

5.3.4.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee are to:

a. advise the Provost on policies and priorities concerning college and university revenue and expenditures;  
b. assist the Provost in the yearly ranking of academic priorities;  
c. advise the Provost concerning budgetary adjustments;  
d. assist in the preparation of long-range fiscal plans for the academic area;  
e. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary;  
f. participate in all phases of the development and execution of the institutional strategic planning process  
g. consult with the Provost concerning the need for academic program reduction, impaction, merger, and closure, according to Section 2.14.4.1;  
h. recommend Joint Faculty Assembly action on Provost recommendations for academic program reduction, impaction, merger, and closure, according to Section 2.14.4.3.

5.3.5 Faculty Development and Research Committee (FDRC)

The Faculty Development and Research Committee develops guidelines and implements policies, procedures, and programs which will enhance the personal, professional, and instructional development of the faculty, and it recommends institutional changes and improvements necessary to accomplish these goals.

5.3.5.1 Composition

The members of the Faculty Development and Research Committee are:
a. seven faculty members, elected to three-year terms — one elected from each of the four academic divisions, one elected from the School of Theology, and two elected at large. At least three faculty members must be tenured.

Ex-officio administrative members are:

b. either the Provost, a delegate appointed by the Provost or the Associate Provost and Academic Dean.

5.3.5.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Faculty Development and Research Committee are to:

a. administer faculty development funding by:

1. establishing criteria for funding
2. receiving funding requests from individual faculty members and departments for professional development projects,
3. making recommendations to the Provost regarding distributing funds to individuals and departments,
4. receiving copies of project reports funded through the committee and forwarding evaluations to the Provost, and
5. maintaining records on projects funded through the committee;

b. oversee general professional development for faculty by:

1. reviewing and ranking sabbatical leave proposals,
2. reviewing requests for leaves and reduced teaching load associated with professional development and activities along with the recommendations of the chair of the department or head of the program in question, and
3. soliciting nominations for annual teaching awards and overseeing the selection of the recipients;

C. recommend institutional changes and improvements necessary to accomplish these goals;

d. recommend institutional changes and improvements necessary to support faculty research and development;
The duties and responsibilities of the Rank and Tenure Committee are to:

a. receive data related to questions of rank, promotion, and tenure in order to assist the Provost, in consultation with the associate provost and academic dean and the appropriate department chair, in determining when faculty members are
eligible to apply for third-year review, tenure review, and promotion (see Sections 2.6.1, 2.6.3 and 2.7.1)

b. carry out all reviews according to the process and procedures described in Sections 2.5, 2.6, and 2.7;

c. review and recommend changes in the criteria for evaluating both the professional performance and the institutional needs governing reviews, tenure, and promotion to the Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee;

d. develop and follow a process of faculty review that is humane and practical and which promotes faculty development and growth;

e. advise the President on cases of suspension of faculty in accordance with procedures in Section 2.13.6.5;

f. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary; and

g. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

5.3.7  Saint John’s University Rank and Tenure Committee

According to the schedule and guidelines in Sections 2.1, 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7, the Saint John’s University Rank and Tenure Committee regularly reviews the progress of the Saint John’s University faculty with regard to their professional growth and their fulfillment of the obligations of faculty appointments. The committee makes recommendations to the Provost concerning advancement to tenure and promotion in rank as set forth in Section 2.7, “Promotion Policies and Procedures.”

5.3.7.1  Composition

The members of the Saint John’s University Rank and Tenure Committee are:

a. seven faculty members, elected to three-year terms — one from the Fine Arts or Humanities Division, one from the Natural Science Division, one from the Social Science Division, one from the School of Theology, and three elected at large.

b. Ex-officio administrative members are: the Associate Provost and Academic Dean.

The faculty members must be tenured College of Saint Benedict faculty, with not more than two from any one department. Department chairs do not serve on the committee during a year when a member of their department is to be reviewed.
5.3.7.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Rank and Tenure Committee are to:

a. receive data related to questions of rank, promotion, and tenure in order to assist the Provost, in consultation with the associate provost and academic dean and the appropriate department chair, in determining when faculty members are eligible to apply for third-year review, tenure review, and promotion (see Sections 2.6.1, 2.6.3 and 2.7.1)

b. carry out all reviews according to the process and procedures described in Sections 2.5, 2.6, and 2.7;

c. review and recommend changes in the criteria for evaluating both the professional performance and the institutional needs governing reviews, tenure, and promotion to the Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee;

d. develop and follow a process of faculty review that is humane and practical and which promotes faculty development and growth;

e. advise the President on cases of suspension of faculty in accordance with procedures in Section 2.13.6.5;

f. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary; and

g. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

5.3.8 Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee (FHEC)

The Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee acts as a resource to faculty members concerning Faculty Handbook policies, coordinates faculty deliberations concerning amendments to the Faculty Handbook, and oversees the elections and grievance processes.

5.3.8.1 Composition

The members of the Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee are:

a. seven faculty members elected at large. At least four of the faculty members must be tenured.

Ex-officio administrative members are:

b. the Provost or a delegate appointed by the Provost.
5.3.8.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee are to:

a. initiate or receive proposals for amending or revising the Faculty Handbook as described in Section 2.16;

b. process proposed Faculty Handbook changes through the Joint Faculty Assembly and the Provost, who will notify the Presidents of the College/University and secure acceptance, rejection, or proposed amendments to the proposals in accordance with the procedures described in Section 2.16.3;

c. petition for emergency changes in the Faculty Handbook by following procedures in Section 2.16.4;

d. assist in the interpretation of particular passages in the Faculty Handbook;

e. initiate or receive charges of Faculty Handbook violations, and when necessary, implement procedures for action, including filing a grievance according to procedures in Section 4.1. When the Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee initiates a grievance, the Faculty Governance Committee shall perform all of the functions normally assigned to the Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee under the grievance procedure, including ruling on whether the alleged violation is grievable and appointing the ad hoc grievance committee.

f. oversee the preliminary steps of each grievance as described in Section 4.1.5 (except when the Faculty Handbook and Elections Committee is a party to the grievance) and report annually to the Assembly about all faculty grievances filed, as described in Section 4.1.10.11.2;

g. act as an oversight committee for Faculty Handbook issues;

h. establish faculty committee membership of standing and ad hoc committees by:

1. maintaining an up-to-date record of committee membership;
2. surveying faculty to learn on which committees individual members prefer to serve;
3. scheduling and supervising faculty elections;
4. provides information on faculty members eligible for appointment by the Faculty Governance Committee as faculty representatives to the
designated committees of the SJU Board of Regents and the CSB Board of Trustees;

5. consulting with the administration on the appointment of faculty members to administrative committees.

i. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary; and
j. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

5.3.9 Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee

The Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee formulates recommendations on compensation issues. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Provost in the budgeting process as it relates to compensation.

5.3.9.1 Composition

The members of the Faculty Compensation Committee are:

a. seven faculty members. At least four of the faculty members must be tenured.

Ex-officio administrative members are:

b. the Provost or a delegate appointed by the Provost.

Consultants are:

c. the Associate Provost and Academic Dean, and

d. the Academic Budget Analyst.

5.3.9.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee are to:

a. conduct an open meeting with the faculty to elicit salary and fringe benefit concerns;

b. negotiate with the appropriate administrative officers and committees regarding faculty compensation;

b. appoint representatives to serve on the Joint Benefits Committee;
d. review the fringe benefit package annually and recommend changes in fringe benefits to the Joint Faculty Assembly and the appropriate administrative officers and committees;

e. make recommendations for faculty compensation annually to the Academic Planning and Budget Committee, to the Joint Faculty Assembly, and to the administration;

f. recommend a method for distribution of the compensation package to the Joint Faculty Assembly each year;

g. make recommendations to the Provost on individual equity adjustments annually;

h. review policies governing medical leaves and advise the Provost on such policies;

i. review and recommend policies regarding early or partial retirement programs, in consultation with the Faculty Development and Research Committee;

j. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary; and

k. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

5.3.10 Graduate Theological Studies Committee

The Graduate Theological Studies Committee, in collaboration with the faculty of the School of Theology, reports to the Dean of the School of Theology, who receives from them recommendations on academic matters for the School of Theology and, in turn, reports to the Provost.

5.3.10.1 Composition

The members of the Graduate Theological Studies Committee are five or six voting members: three faculty members from the School of Theology elected to three-year terms, the Dean of the School of Theology and/or a delegate appointed by the Dean, and a student elected by the School of Theology student government.

5.3.10.2 Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Graduate Theological Studies Committee are to:
a. review educational aims, objectives, and programs of the School of Theology·Seminary, propose changes to the School of Theology faculty and submit those changes to the Provost;
b. develop academic priorities in light of the educational aims and objectives of the School of Theology·Seminary;
c. review and establish guidelines and procedures for granting academic credit for courses and submit them to the Provost;
d. review and act on proposals for new courses in the School of Theology curriculum;
e. review and recommend to the School of Theology faculty all proposed changes in degree requirements;
f. review and make recommendations on policies regarding student academic standards, admissions, attrition, retention, academic probation, and dismissal;
g. formulate policies regarding grade changes and waivers;
h. hear appeals on charges of student plagiarism, academic probation, and dismissal;
i. review policies and procedures and make recommendations concerning student academic advising;
j. review policies and procedures and make recommendations concerning library services;
k. review and evaluate policies and procedures for transcript evaluation, credit by examination, and credit for experiential learning;
l. recommend means of improving the study atmosphere and learning environment of the School of Theology·Seminary;
m. review forms and procedures of student evaluation of courses and recommend changes to the School of Theology faculty;
n. act as a faculty advisory committee to the Dean of the School of Theology;
o. communicate with the appropriate faculty committees as deemed necessary; and
p. initiate whatever action is necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.