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## Academic Policy Committee Report - February 17, 2005

Graduate Council

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ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2005  
2:00 – 3:15 P.M.  
4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, AHT

Present: Matthew Murray (Chair in absence of Charles Feigerle), Michael Keene, Stefanie Ohnesorg, Mary Papke, Kay Reed, Belle Upahyaya.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Andy Holt Tower.

1. Master's Degree Requirement.

The committee recommended that Council approve the following change to the policy on Master's degree requirements.

From:

"A minimum of one-half of the total hours required for a master's degree must be taken at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville."  
(*Graduate Catalog*, page 31, second column, under heading Master's Degree)

To:

"A majority of the total hours required for a master's degree must be taken at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville."

2. Doctoral Committee Members.

The committee recommended that the Council approve the following change to *Graduate Catalog* concerning the doctoral committee members (continuation of previous discussion):

Add to section on page 34 under Doctoral Committee the sentence marked in bold italics.

The major professor directs the student's dissertation research and chairs the dissertation committee. The student and the major professor identify a doctoral committee composed of at least four faculty members holding the rank of assistant professor or above, three of whom, including the chair, must be approved by the Graduate Council to direct doctoral research. At least one member must be from an academic unit other than that of the student's

major field. ***Where appropriate, a student is encouraged to seek a fifth member in the field of specialization from outside the university to serve on the dissertation committee.*** This committee is nominated by the department head or college dean and approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies.

3. Forming Doctoral Committee.

The committee recommended that the Council approve the following change in the Doctoral Committee section of the *Graduate Catalog*:

Page 32, second paragraph, first line of Doctoral Committee section:

Current statement:

“The committee should be formed during the student’s first year of doctoral study.”

Change to:

“A doctoral student should begin to form the committee during the first year of study.”

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.