

Responsibilities of the Department of Biology Graduate Program's Committee

The GPC will have monthly meetings with the graduate advisor to conduct any of the following responsibilities:

- The GPC approves new graduate courses put forth by the faculty.
- The GPC discusses graduate student curriculum concerns brought by the Department of Biology faculty.
- To serve the changing educational needs of the graduate students, the GPC will revise the Graduate Student Course Curriculum and the Department of Biology Graduate Student Handbook.
- The GPC selects recipients for Student Awards.
- The GPC advises first year graduate students on rotation selection and coursework.
- Disputes between students, their thesis advisor, and/or committee that cannot be easily resolved by the Graduate Advisor shall be resolved by the Department of Biology Graduate Advisor after consultation with the GPC.
- The GPC has access to updated Department of Biology graduate student files for assisting the Graduate Advisor to:
 - i. Monitor the student's first year rotations and officially acknowledge the student's first year committee assessment towards continuing a Masters or a Ph.D. degree.
 - ii. Monitor the prompt scheduling of the student's Ph.D. oral and written preliminary exam.
 - iii. Monitor the prompt scheduling of the student's yearly committee meeting, and officially acknowledge the student's committee's written assessment for continuing or terminating progress towards the Masters or Ph.D. degree.
 - iv. Officially acknowledge the student's committee's written assessment that the Masters or Ph.D. candidate can write his/her thesis and set a defense date.

How these charges are performed procedurally will be at the discretion of the elected GPC, in cooperation with the Department of Biology Graduate Advisor.

Agreed on 08/20/2012

GPC Committee (2009-2012):

James Erickson
L. Rene Garcia
Xiaorong Lin
Deborah Siegele

Graduate Advisor (2012-)

Arne Lekven