

**GR VII
(University Organization)
Summary of Major Revisions**

Definition of educational unit

In the proposed revision, the definition of an “educational unit” has been modified and states:

An “educational unit” engages in some combination of educational activity in instruction, research or other creative activities, and service as its primary mission, and has a tenured faculty employee as its chief administrative officer.

The faculty activity in educational units span all three broad areas of educational endeavor, albeit from one unit to the next in varying levels of intensity among those areas of educational activity. Under the terms of the proposed revision, for example, institutes and multidisciplinary research centers will be permitted to offer credit-bearing courses and graduate certificates, instructional activity heretofore those units could not perform.

Conferral of Faculty Appointment

The current language in GR VII prohibits institutes and multidisciplinary research centers from conferring faculty appointment, offering credit-bearing courses or hosting graduate certificate programs. The proposed revision relaxes those restrictions and permits institutes and multidisciplinary research centers to confer:

- primary or secondary appointments of faculty employees in the tenure-ineligible series (e.g., research and clinical title series faculty employees)
- secondary appointments of faculty employees in the tenure-eligible faculty series

The proposed revision continues to *limit* the locus of *primary* appointment in the tenure-eligible faculty series to this set of four educational units: departments, schools, graduate centers, and colleges without either departments or schools. Faculty employees in the tenure-eligible series may hold only secondary appointments in institutes and multidisciplinary research centers. In addition, faculty employees in the tenure-ineligible series may hold either primary or secondary faculty appointments in institutes and multidisciplinary research centers.

Permitting faculty appointment in institutes and multidisciplinary research centers, however, creates a new contingency: the educational unit administrator of said units will assume responsibility for the periodic evaluation and advancement of those faculty employees appointed to the institute and multidisciplinary research center (e.g., faculty performance review, reappointment review, promotion, etc.). In addition, under a revised regulation, institutes and multidisciplinary research centers will likely increase their levels of instructional activity by offering degree-bearing courses and, perhaps, graduate certificates. Such instructional activities, and the faculty who provide those educational

activities, must be supervised by tenured faculty employees. Therefore, the proposed revision stipulates that a tenured faculty employee shall serve as the educational unit administrator of all institutes and multidisciplinary research centers.

That said, we recognize the current realities: a few highly successful multidisciplinary research centers are currently led by staff employees. The President and Provost have agreed that, should the proposed revisions be approved by the Board of Trustees, the University will permit the current leadership arrangements to continue in those few units. However, no educational unit led by a staff employee will be permitted to confer faculty appointment, host credit-bearing courses or offer graduate certificates.

Instruction

The current version of GR VII prohibits institutes and multidisciplinary research centers from offering credit-bearing courses, graduate certificates or degree programs. The proposed revision continues the prohibition against degree programs but permits institutes and multidisciplinary research centers to offer credit-bearing courses and graduate certificates. However, institutes and multidisciplinary research centers offering a required course for a degree program in another educational unit or hosting its own graduate certificate must have a sufficient number of budgeted faculty appointments (primary or secondary) to develop, propose, and provide such courses or certificates.

Language in the proposed revision also states that interdisciplinary instructional programs are required to have a sufficient number of budgeted faculty (secondary) appointments to provide on a regular basis the required courses of the degree program.

In addition, the proposed revision stipulates that, for interdisciplinary instructional program which draw faculty from two or more colleges, the Provost shall designate the appropriate educational unit to which the program reports.