

TITLE: Graduate Student Scholastic Appeals Committee
AUTHOR: Director of Graduate Studies
APPROVAL DATE: May 2, 2025
EFFECTIVE DATE: May 2, 2025
PURPOSE: To establish rules and guidelines by which the Graduate Student Scholastic Appeals Committee operates
REVIEWER: Graduate Council
REVIEW DATE: Spring 2030 and every five years thereafter
OPERATING DETAILS:

1. The Graduate Student Scholastic Appeals Committee shall consist of one graduate faculty member from each department with a graduate program to be appointed each year by the deans of the colleges/school in which those departments fall. Term limits are staggered for five years and may be renewed. The Registrar will serve as an ex officio non-voting member. Members' names are not to be identified in public documents for anonymity and integrity of this committee. Quorum will be considered by a simple majority.
2. The Chair of the Graduate Student Scholastic Appeals Committee shall be appointed by the Director of Graduate Studies for a three-year term which may be renewed.
3. Any current student who has been excluded from a graduate program at Mississippi University for Women for academic reasons shall have the right to appeal her/his exclusion. A graduate student may appeal to this committee only once during his or her graduate-student career.
4. Detailed procedures for appealing an academic expulsion shall be clearly stated in the current edition of the MUW Bulletin and shall be posted on the University website.
5. The student's appeal shall consist of a letter, in her/his own words, addressed to the Graduate Student Scholastic Appeals Committee in care of the Director of Graduate Studies. It should contain salient information detailing possible reasons and explanations for sub-standard academic performance, any extenuating circumstances, etc. In addition to the student's own letter, any documentation or letters of support for the student from outside parties should also accompany the letter. All documentation must be submitted with the written appeal. No documentation or supporting materials will be accepted after the committee's decision has been made.
6. The Director of Graduate Studies shall forward the appeal information to the Chair of the Graduate Student Scholastic Appeals Committee. The deadline for

receiving appeals shall be the working day prior to the published registration date for the semester for which the student intends to register.

7. Neither the student, nor any other parties, shall be granted the privilege of a personal appearance or hearing before the Committee.
8. The Committee shall reserve the right to seek any relevant academic information pertaining to the student, such as class attendance records and transcripts, before rendering a final decision on the exclusion of the student.
9. The Committee shall have the right to impose certain academic requirements or conditions on any student it readmits to the university. These may include, but are not limited to, prescribing certain courses, determining semester course load, requiring a specified level of scholastic performance, and requiring academic counseling.
10. A written statement concerning the actions of the Committee on each student's appeal shall be forwarded to the Director of Graduate Studies, who will then notify the student in writing of the Committee's action with copies to the Registrar and the student's Academic Department.
11. The Graduate Student Scholastic Appeals Committee represents the highest performance review board to which the student may appeal an academic expulsion. The decisions of the committee are not subject to review or change by any other university authority.

Revised: 5/13/15; 5/2/2025

Reviewed: 11/2019