In May 2018, the Shared Governance Oversight Committee recommended and gained approval of the following criteria for each Graduate Faculty category. The criteria allow for departments to provide specific definitions and/or clarification with the language “as defined by the college and/or department.”

Responses to the questions below will provide guidance to the Graduate Council when approving individuals for Graduate Faculty status.

*Program name: Physical Therapy*

**Regular Member**

Regular Member is a full-time faculty member with a terminal degree (in exceptional cases, unique experience, specialized training, and professional competence may substitute for a terminal degree). Requires documented evidence of an appropriate level of scholarly activity and continued participation in graduate education at the course, committee and program levels, as defined by the college and/or department. Approved for six years, at which time the member may reapply.

* *What is an appropriate degree(s) for your program(s) in lieu of a terminal degree?*

Regular Members of the Graduate Faculty must be a full-time faculty member with a terminal degree. Terminal degrees are typically in related fields (e.g., Exercise Physiology, Neuroscience) or in education (e.g., Educational Leadership).

* *What unique experiences are appropriate in lieu of a terminal degree in your program(s)?*

Exceptional cases include faculty members that are hired to teach within the Department of Physical Therapy that have an advanced Master’s degree beyond entry level physical therapy, which includes Master of Physical Therapy, Doctor of Physical Therapy or Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy. Up to 50% of the core physical therapy faculty may use this exceptional circumstance.

* *What specialized training or professional competence are appropriate in lieu of a terminal degree in your program(s)?*
* *What does your program(s) consider an “appropriate level of scholarly activity?”*

Regular Members are expected to complete a minimum of three (3) activities in the area of scholarship. Scholarship activities include conducting and producing scholarly activity such as writing books, publishing peer reviewed articles, presenting to learned forum, leading and managing funded research and scholarly activity.

**Professional Member**

Professional Member is a full-time, non-tenure or part-time/adjunct faculty member with a terminal or graduate/professional degree in the discipline. Professional certification is considered when appropriate. Significant professional experience is required, as defined by the college and/or department. Limits on committee membership and courses taught can be applied, as defined by the college and/or department. Approved for six years, at which time the member may reapply.

* *What professional certifications would be considered in lieu of the above degree requirements?*

Individuals with a Bachelor’s degree in physical therapy, hold a physical therapy license in Arkansas, and possess specialty certifications will be considered for teaching Special Topic courses.

* *What constitutes significant professional experience for your program(s) (may include administrative oversight of graduate programs)?*

Individuals with specialty certifications or extensive business/administrative background.

* *If a terminal degree is not required to co-chair a dissertation committee, what qualifications are required in lieu of a terminal degree?*

N/A. We do not have dissertations in the DPT.

* *If a terminal degree is not required to co-chair a master’s thesis committee, what qualifications are required in lieu of a terminal degree?*

N/A. We do not have thesis in the DPT.