



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

University of Alaska Fairbanks

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS

DNRE Graduate Advisory Committees

Each graduate student is guided by a major advisor/professor (also referred to as the advisory committee chair) and a graduate advisory committee. Students entering the Ph.D. program must have a faculty sponsor, who must meet all requirements for advisory committee chair, prior to admission. We strongly encourage students entering the MNRE and MS programs to do the same. All graduate students are expected to have an approved advisory committee by the end of their first year. Students should select members based on the guidelines given below in close consultation with and the approval of their committee chair. The student should fill out the “Appointment or Change of Advisory Graduate Committee” form

(<http://www.uaf.edu/gradsch/forms/>), obtain signatures of the committee chair and all committee members, and submit the form to the DNRE Academic Programs office. The proposed committee is reviewed and approved by the Department Chair. Adjustments to committee composition may occur in consultation with the Department Chair and committee chair. Any changes to committee composition must occur prior to paperwork being forwarded to the CNSM Dean for approval and signature. The DNRE Academic Programs Office will forward the form to the Graduate School, retaining a copy of the form for the student’s file.

Student initiated changes to graduate committee composition must be approved by committee chair and a revised appointment of Graduate Student Advisory Committee form (<http://www.uaf.edu/gradsch/forms/>) approved by the Department Chair and the Dean and filed with the Graduate School.. Any committee members who are being relieved should provide their signature in the “resigning committee member” box. Many faculty members who leave UAF or retire are willing to continue to serve on advisory committees, and can continue as members or chairs. They do not have to be removed from the committee. However, some departed and retired faculty members choose not to continue to serve on advisory committees, and should be replaced. In the rare cases where the committee and/or chair do not approve the committee change, the student should contact the Department Chair, who will ascertain the reasons and try to negotiate a mutually agreeable compromise.



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COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

M.S. and MNRE Degree:

Advisory committees for Master's students (MNRE, MS) must include at least three members, one of which is the chair (or two may be co-chairs).

The committee chair (or at least one co-chair) must be tenured or tenure track faculty in DNRE or collaborating¹ faculty in DNRE at the associate or full professor rank. Other members of advisory committees, including co-chairs, may be Emeriti in DNRE², faculty from other UAF departments, other universities, or they may be suitably qualified professionals from outside academia.³ Every committee must have at least one DNRE tenure track faculty.

All committee members must be approved by the DNRE Chair, CNSM Dean, and the Graduate School Dean.

Ph.D. Degree:

Dissertation advisory committees for Ph.D. students in Natural Resources and Sustainability must include at least four members who hold PhD degrees or equivalent, one of which is the chair, or two of which may be co-chairs.

The committee chair (or at least one co-chair) must be tenured or tenure track faculty or collaborating¹ faculty at the associate or full professor rank in either DNRE or the College of Business and Security Management (CBSM).

Emeriti in DNRE² or CBSM⁴, other faculty (research or tenure track) at UAF, or affiliate⁵ faculty in DNRE or CBSM may co-chair, but may not chair PhD committees. Every committee must have at least one DNRE or CBSM tenure track faculty.

Other members of advisory committees may be faculty from other UAF departments, other universities, or they may be suitably qualified professional scientists³ from outside academia.

¹ A faculty member employed by one unit of the university in voluntary faculty service with another unit.

² Or the past UAF School of Natural Resources and Extension.

³ Suitably qualified implies holding a degree at or above the degree being sought.

⁴ Or the past School of Management.

⁵ Not employed by the University of Alaska Fairbanks.



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Additional members beyond the four required may include suitably qualified professionals who do not hold a doctoral degree, but are approved by the current committee members, DNRE Chair and CNSM Dean or Homeland Security and Emergency Management Chair and CBSM Dean, and the Graduate School Dean.