
Advisory Committee

- Each PhD candidate conducts thesis research by working closely with two Thesis Advisors*, a School of Computer Science (SoCS) Advisor and an Application Discipline (AD) Advisor, who share equal responsibility in advising the student.
- One of the student's Advisors chairs the committee.
- The student is also required to have an Advisory Committee consisting of the two Advisors and at least two additional Graduate Faculty members approved by the SoCS Graduate Committee (and normally selected with the participation of the student).
- The Advisory Committee is as follows:
 - **School of Computer Science (SoCS) Advisor**
 - Can be any Regular or Associated Graduate Faculty member of SoCS.
 - **Application Discipline (AD) Advisor**
 - Can be any Regular or Associated Graduate Faculty member in another academic department/school at the University, or someone from outside the University who is approved by the SoCS Graduate Committee.
 - Faculty in SoCS cannot normally serve as AD advisor, unless they have an academic background in another discipline (as judged by the SoCS Graduate Committee) and hold an Adjunct Faculty appointment in an academic department in that discipline in a recognized university in Canada.
 - **First Committee Member**
 - Can be any Regular or Associated Graduate Faculty member of SoCS.
 - **Second Committee Member**
 - Can be any Regular or Associated Graduate Faculty member; a member selected from the application discipline is encouraged.

** At least one of the Co-Advisors must be Regular Graduate Faculty at the University of Guelph*

The two advisors must be appointed when the student is admitted. The Advisory Committee must be established no later than the mid-point of the Student's second registered semester.

Seminar Requirement

- Each PhD student must give two publicly announced research seminars on their PhD thesis research.
- Each Seminar Committee is composed of the SoCS Advisor, who will act as Chair, the Application Discipline (AD) Advisor and one other Graduate Faculty member. It is recommended that the entire Advisory Committee attend.

PhD Qualifying Examination (QE) Committee

The QE Examination Committee of a PhD candidate is normally composed of five members* as follows:

- **Chair**
 - Can be any member of the Regular Graduate Faculty of SoCS, assigned by the Graduate Progress Committee and approved by the SoCS Director.
 - The Chair cannot be a member of the Advisory Committee.
- **Two Advisory Committee**
 - Normally, includes at least one of the Advisors.
 - Are assigned by the Advisory Committee.
- **Two Graduate Faculty**
 - Can be any two members of the Regular or Associated Graduate Faculty who are not members of the Advisory Committee.
 - The Advisory Committee will supply the Graduate Progress Committee with the names of up to five preferred Graduate Faculty members and the Graduate Progress Committee will consider these names when making their approval.

**At least one Graduate Faculty member must be from the Application Discipline (AD)*

PhD Defence Examination Committee

The Examination Committee of a PhD Student is normally composed of five members as follows:

- **Chair**
 - Can be any member of the Regular Graduate Faculty of SoCS to act as Chair of the PhD Examination Committee.
 - The Chair cannot be a member of the Advisory Committee.
 - Is assigned by the Graduate Progress Committee and approved by the SoCS Director.
- **External Examiner**
 - An External Examiner from outside of the university is appointed on behalf of the Dean of Graduate Studies by the SoCS Director, in consultation with the Advisor and Graduate Progress Committee.
- **Two Advisory Committee Members:**
 - Normally, includes at least one of the Advisors.
 - Are assigned by the Advisory Committee.
- **Graduate Faculty Member:**
 - Can be any member of the Regular Graduate Faculty from another department or from SoCS.
 - Cannot be a member of the Advisory Committee.
 - The Advisory Committee will supply the Graduate Progress Committee with the names of up to three preferred Faculty Members and the Graduate Progress Committee will consider these names when making their approval.