



TO: Council on Graduate Studies  
FROM: Robert M. Augustine, Dean  
RE: Petition from the Master of Arts in Music to Waive Associate Member Limitations  
DATE: May 2, 2011

---

### **Policy CGS 10-22 Waivers of Associate Member Limitations**

Programs may petition the Council on Graduate Studies to waive the standard limitations and authorize the Associate Member privileges to perform duties reserved for Regular Members. Such privileges may include service on a thesis committee, contributions to a curriculum committee, or support for the graduate program in other specialized ways.

### **Petition**

The Master of Arts in Music petitions the Council on Graduate Studies to grant an Associate Member of the Graduate Faculty, Dr. Katherine McBain, and the privilege to support the graduate program in College Student Affairs in specialized ways. The music program supports the college student affairs' request to have Dr. McBain serve on a thesis committee of a graduate candidate in the Master of Science in College Student Affairs. While Dr. McBain has a terminal degree the Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) from the Eastman School of Music and is an active scholar, she holds a position as an annually contracted faculty member rather than a tenured/tenure track position. She is well qualified to serve in this role as she has a significant history of mentoring students, assisting students with performances, and engaging in scholarship with students. If approved, the special privileges would be allowed for a period of 5 years.

- **Specific Privileges:** In her role on the thesis committee, Dr. McBain would provide guidance to a graduate candidate in the Master of Science in College Student Affairs who is studying wellness of undergraduate music students. Because Dr. McBain has an experience in this area she is unique among the music faculty; therefore, her expertise is requested on the committee. The Thesis Chair will have the final authority to approve the thesis. The remaining members of the thesis committee meet the Graduate Faculty criteria.
- **Rationale:** As noted in the petition, Dr. McBain has the unique expertise to assist with this project and a desire to contribute to the project's success. She holds a terminal degree and is an active scholar. In using Dr. McBain's expertise in this way, the program provides an interdisciplinary experience for a graduate candidate which is aligned with the Provost's Integrative Learning goals.
- **Authorization:** The Chair, Dr. Jerry Daniels and Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Marilyn Coles, provided evidence that the Graduate Faculty support Dr. McBain's petition to the CGS to allow this privilege. In addition, the Chair, Graduate Coordinator, and graduate faculty in College Student Affairs also support Dr. McBain's petition. Dean Augustine reviewed the petition with Dr. Coles who indicated that this is an effective way to use the unique expertise of this faculty member.

### **Dean's Recommendation**

The Master of Arts in Music identified the specific privileges, provided a rationale, and provided evidence that the faculty support the petition. I recommend that the Council on Graduate Studies support the petition and waive the associate member limitations and allow Dr. Katherine C. McBain to serve as a member of a thesis committee in the Master of Science in College Student Affairs.