

Complete Policy Title:
**Policy on Supervision of Graduate Work
by Faculty with Other Appointments, as
defined in SPS A3 and SPS A4**

Policy Number (if applicable):
SPS A11

Approved by:
**Senate
Board of Governors**

Date of Most Recent Approval:
**December 14, 2011
December 15, 2011**

Date of Original Approval(s):
December 14, 2011

Supersedes/Amends Policy dated:
September 11, 1983 (SPS 7)

Responsible Executive:
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Enquiries:
[University Secretariat](#)

***DISCLAIMER:** If there is a Discrepancy between this electronic policy and the written copy held by the policy owner, the written copy prevails*

It is the responsibility of the department/program to ensure that every graduate student has, at all times, a faculty advisor or a properly constituted supervisory committee (see [Graduate Calendar](#)). The following regulations cover the involvement in graduate student supervision of persons who hold Other Appointments as outlined in SPS A3 and A4.

I Principal Supervisor of Graduate Students

Former full-time McMaster faculty must obtain an adjunct faculty position (see SPS A3) or other part-time faculty position (see SPS A4) to continue as the principal supervisor of a graduate student. When such an appointment is offered to a former faculty member who is now employed at another university, the other affiliation of the adjunct faculty member shall be listed in the Calendar.

The case may be made for appointment as principal supervisor of an adjunct or other part-time appointee, as listed in SPS A3 or A4, who is not a former full-time member of the McMaster faculty. The appointment of such an individual as the principal supervisor of a graduate student is subject to the prior approval of both the Dean of the relevant Faculty (or delegate) and the Dean of Graduate Studies (or delegate, e.g. Associate Dean, Graduate Studies).

The appointee's students should be treated like the other students of the Department and this requires that the appointee must fully understand the Department's policies and standards and share the responsibility for maintaining them.

II Membership on Supervisory Committees

Adjunct and other part-time appointees as listed in SPS A3 and A4 may participate as a member of the supervisory committee of a graduate student, with the approval of the Chair of the Department in which the student is enrolled, and of the Dean of Graduate Studies (or delegate).