

HANDBOOK

**of Policies and Procedures
for Graduate Students**

NORTH CAROLINA STATE
UNIVERSITY

**Department of
SOIL SCIENCE**

Fall 2011

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I. INTRODUCTION

Graduate student education is an essential and integral component of the research, teaching, extension, and service functions of the Soil Science Department at North Carolina State University. Soil Science faculty and staff are dedicated to enhancing the graduate student experience. This handbook outlines University and Departmental policy and procedures needed for successful graduate study in Soil Science. Students should consult the most recent edition of the Graduate Catalog of North Carolina State University (Web address: <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/>) for current information on application, admission, tuition, degree requirement, housing, etc. The Graduate School Home Page also contains most of the forms reproduced in the Appendix in a downloadable format. If you need additional information or clarification, please contact Dee Ann Cooper, Administrative Support Specialist (2321 Williams Hall; 513-4409), Dr. Jot Smyth, Director of Graduate Programs (3104 Williams Hall; 515-2838), or my office (2234 Williams Hall; 513-0812).

Michael Wagger, Department Head
Department of Soil Science

II. ARRIVING ON CAMPUS

The Department of Soil Science is housed in Williams Hall, a building shared with the Crop Science Department. When you arrive on campus, please stop by the Teaching Office in Room 2321 Williams Hall. Dee Ann Cooper, Student Services Assistant, will record your arrival and answer any questions you may have about the Graduate Programs in the Department of Soil Science.

Dr. Jot Smyth is the Director of Graduate Programs. He is located in room 3104 Williams Hall. Please stop by to visit with Dr. Smyth upon your arrival.

It also is important that you contact your Advisor upon arrival. Your Advisor will discuss your responsibilities as a graduate student and will assist in scheduling your course work.

If you have been awarded a research and teaching assistantship, please contact Dee Ann Cooper, Room 2321 Williams Hall, upon your arrival on campus to process the necessary forms.

Finally, please schedule a short meeting with the Department Head, Dr. Michael Wagger, through Martha Leary (2229 Williams Hall). This visit will provide an opportunity for Dr. Wagger to get to know you and to discuss any concerns you may have.

III. CONTINUOUS REGISTRATION

After a student is admitted to the Graduate School and enrolls for the first time, the student is required to maintain continuous registration, i.e. be enrolled each semester (excluding summer sessions) until the student either has graduated or the student's graduate program at NCSU has been terminated. The following exceptions apply:

Leave of Absence. A student in good academic standing who must interrupt her or his graduate program for good reasons may request a leave of absence from graduate study for a definite period of time, normally not to exceed one year. To obtain a leave of absence, the student should initiate the request with the chair of his or her advisory committee and have it endorsed by the Director of Graduate Programs, who will submit the request to the Graduate School. The Graduate School should receive the request at least one month prior to the first day of the term involved. The time that the student spends on an approved leave of absence will be included in the time allowed to complete the degree, i.e. six years for the master's and 10 years for the doctoral. The Graduate School will respond to any request for a leave of absence within five working days of the receipt of the request in the Graduate School.

Additional exceptions:

1. All students who take their final oral examination or submit their thesis or dissertation to the Graduate School during either summer session must be registered for either the first or second summer session.
2. Students who complete all requirements for the degree prior to the first day of the fall or spring semester or the first summer session may graduate during the next semester or summer session without being registered for the immediately preceding semester or summer session (either session).
3. In order for students to submit their thesis or dissertation to the Graduate School or have their final oral examination after the last day of a semester or summer session but before the first day of the next semester or summer session, they must be registered in the semester or summer session (either session) that immediately precedes the date that the thesis or dissertation is submitted or the examination is held.
4. Students whose only remaining requirement for graduation is removal of an incomplete (IN) in a course are not required to be registered to remove the incomplete and graduate. Students who do not remove any incomplete grades in the semester or summer session following the completion of all other requirements and are not registered during the same semester or summer session, however, will have their programs terminated at the end of that semester or summer session due to non-compliance with the continuous registration policy.

Graduate students whose programs have been terminated because of failure to maintain continuous registration and who have not been granted a leave of absence during a fall or spring semester will be required to reapply for admission and pay the \$65 admission fee if they wish to resume their graduate studies at North Carolina State University.

IV. PATENT AGREEMENT

All students must sign a patent agreement (see form on Appendix page A-1). A separate patent agreement is required for each different degree and/or program for which a plan of work is submitted. Patent agreement forms are available from Dee Ann Cooper in Room 2321 Williams. After reading and signing the patent agreement, return it to Dee Ann and she will file it with the Graduate School. No committee request or Plan of Graduate Work will be approved without a signed patent agreement.

V. GRADUATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A. Selection of an Advisor. In most cases, the graduate student will be assigned an Advisor at the time the letter of acceptance to the Graduate School is mailed. This arrangement is not intended to preempt the student's involvement in selecting someone with whom the student desires to study. Rather, this procedure is followed to insure that a Graduate Faculty member is willing to advise and work with each student admitted. Furthermore, assistantships are awarded either from grants to specific research programs or from other sources to strengthen specific research programs within the Department of Soil Science. The Advisor is essential to the early planning of a student's program and for selection of the Advisory Committee.

B. Advisory Committee Appointment. An Advisory Committee, which is composed of at least three members for a Master's program and four members for a Doctoral program, is selected in consultation with the Advisor during the student's first semester in residence. One member of the advisory committee for either Master's or Doctoral programs, must be from outside the Department of Soil Science, and if a minor is chosen, should represent the minor field of study. An advisory committee member from outside the department is not required for non-thesis Master's programs. Subsequent requests for changes in the Advisory Committee should be sent in writing, by the Chair of the Committee, to the Director of Graduate Programs for processing through the Graduate School. Once appointed, the Advisory Committee will

provide ideas and suggestions relevant to the research being proposed and will assist in preparing an appropriate Plan of Graduate Work.

C. Plan of Graduate Work. The Plan of Graduate Work (POW) is initiated by the student in the Student Information System of MyPack Portal section of the university website and in consultation with the chair of the Advisory Committee. The POW is reviewed and must be approved by all members of the Advisory Committee and the Director of Graduate Programs. The latter submits the POW to the Dean of the Graduate School for approval. Students are encouraged to develop and submit a POW by the end of their 12 initial months in a degree program. The Director of Graduate Programs will only endorse a Request for Permit to Schedule Master's Oral Examination after the POW has been reviewed and submitted to the Graduate School. Doctoral students are required by the Graduate School to have an approved POW before a Graduate School Representative will be assigned and a Request for Approval to Schedule Doctoral Oral Examination will be approved. The Request for Permit to Schedule Master's Oral Examination must be submitted at least 10 working days (two weeks) prior to the proposed examination and the Request for Approval to Schedule Doctoral Oral Examination must be submitted at least 10 working days (two weeks) prior to the proposed examination (see Section VIII).

D. The Graduate School Representative. The Department of Soil Science requires that a Graduate School Representative be appointed for Doctoral oral examinations. The appointment of the Graduate School Representative is made by the Dean of the Graduate School after the Doctoral student's Plan of Work has been approved. The Representative is selected at random from any discipline not represented by a regular member of the Advisory Committee. The Graduate School Representative has a unique role on the Doctoral examination process and serves to protect the interests of the student, the Advisory Committee, and the Graduate School. The Graduate School Representative also is a "disinterested person" to whom the Dean may turn for judgement and counsel. Because the primary responsibility of the Representative is that of an observer, the Representative should never take a dominant role in the oral examinations, although he or she should be invited to participate and is expected to contribute to the scholarly atmosphere of the examination.

VI. GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN SOIL SCIENCE

A. Core Curriculum. Graduate students in Soil Science are drawn from a wide range of disciplines and participate in the department in a wide range of programs. To ensure that all students who complete a graduate program in Soil Science are well founded in the broad discipline of Soil Science, they are required to demonstrate a background in major sub-disciplines in Soil Science as a departmental requirement for a graduate degree. This includes course work or demonstrable experience in Soil Physics, Soil Chemistry, Soil Microbiology, Soil Genesis and Classification, and Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition. Master's students are required to demonstrate competence in four of these five sub-disciplines, and Doctoral students are required to demonstrate competence in all five. The required competencies can be achieved by any combination of the following: (1) relevant course work from previous undergraduate and/or graduate degree programs; (2) prior professional experience in the major sub-discipline(s); and (3) graduate courses included in the student's Plan of Work for their current degree program. Whenever the student's Advisory Committee determines that competency for a required sub-discipline is met via previous course work or prior professional experience, the form titled "Assessment of Prior Competency in Core Sub-disciplines" should be submitted jointly with the student's Plan of Graduate Work to the Director of Graduate Programs.

B. Master of Soil Science. The Master of Soil Science is a non-thesis program. A minimum of 36 semester credit hours is required for graduation. At least 20 credit hours must come from 500, 600, 700, and 800 level courses with four to six of these credits being devoted to a special problem (SSC 620). One credit hour of seminar (SSC 601) is required and a maximum of two credit hours is acceptable. No more than six credits of 400-level (undergraduate) courses may be counted toward the 36 credit hour requirement and they may not come from the major field. At least 18 credit hours of letter-graded graduate courses ("A," "B," "C", etc.) earned while the student is enrolled in the graduate program must be included in the program. These must be NC State or inter-institutional courses. All requirements

must be completed within six calendar years after the student first enrolls in a graduate course applicable to the program.

- C. Master of Natural Resources.** The Master of Natural Resources is a non-thesis program with an option in Soil Science. A minimum of 32 semester credit hours is required for graduation. The program consists of 15 hours in core courses and 17 hours in Soil Science courses. One credit hour of seminar (SSC 601) is required. This program requires the completion of a Master's project. All requirements must be completed within six calendar years after the student first enrolls in a graduate course applicable to the program.
- D. Master of Science.** The Master of Science in Soil Science is a research degree that requires the successful completion of a research problem and the submittal of a written thesis that documents the research. A minimum of 30 semester credit hours is required for graduation. At least 20 credit hours must come from 500, 600, 700, and 800 level courses. No more than six credits of 400-level (undergraduate) courses may be counted toward the 30 credit hour requirement and they may not come from the major field. The 30 credit hours required in the POW must include at least one credit hour, but not more than two credit hours, of seminar (SSC 601) and must include a minimum of two, but not more than six, credit hours of research (SSC 693 or SSC 695). At least 18 credit hours of letter-graded graduate courses ("A," "B," "C", etc.) earned while the student is enrolled in the graduate program must be included in the program. These must be NC State or inter-institutional courses. Additional credit hours of seminar and research may be taken in addition to the required 30 credit hours to fulfill continuous registration requirements but do not need to be listed on the POW. All requirements must be completed within six calendar years after the student first enrolls in a graduate course applicable to the program. A non-credit exit seminar is required.
- E. Doctor of Philosophy.** The doctorate symbolizes the ability of the student to undertake original research with minimal supervision and demonstrates the student's ability to write a dissertation reporting the results of this research. Eventual publication in a scholarly, refereed journal is expected of research from the dissertation. There are no definite course requirements for the Ph.D. degree. There is, however, a Graduate School requirement for a minimum of 72 credit hours for a Doctoral degree. Of these 72 credit hours, 18 may be transferred from a Master's degree. Students cannot take 400-level courses or lower as part of the credit-hour requirement. Most Doctoral POWs contain 30 to 40 semester credit hours with about one-third of the credit hours coming from courses taught outside of the Department of Soil Science. The POW must contain at least one credit hour of seminar (SSC 801) and at least two credit hours of research (SSC 893 or SSC 895). Additional credit hours of research may be used to fulfill continuous registration requirements but do not need to be listed on the POW. The preliminary written and oral examinations must be completed within six calendar years, and all degree requirements must be completed within ten years from the date of admission to the Doctoral program. A non-credit exit seminar is required.

VII. MINOR PROGRAMS

- A. Minor in Soil Science.** Students in another department may include a minor in Soil Science in their Graduate Plan of Work. In such cases, at least one Graduate Faculty member from the Department of Soil Science must be appointed to the Advisory Committee. Additionally, the Plan of Graduate Work must include three to four courses in Soil Science at the 400 to 800 levels. Students with minors in Soil Science are encouraged, but not required, to enroll in the appropriate Soil Science Seminar (SSC 601 or SSC 801).
- B. Full Minor.** The Department of Soil Science does not require minors in either the Master's or Doctoral programs. The Department, however, does require that one of the three-member Master's committee and one of the four-member Doctoral committee is from an outside department. The graduate student may still opt to have a minor, in which case the Advisory Committee must include a member of the Graduate Faculty from the department or interdepartmental program of the minor discipline. Although three or four courses usually are required in the minor area, some departments and programs have specific course requirements and the Graduate Plan of Work may require endorsement from the Director of Graduate Programs or Program Coordinator.

- C. Split Minor.** A split minor includes supporting course work from two departments or programs, and both minor areas should be identified on the Plan of Graduate Work. At the Master's level, at least one of the minor areas must be represented on the Advisory Committee. A split minor at the Doctoral level requires representation on the Advisory Committee from both minor areas.
- D. Interdisciplinary Minor.** An interdisciplinary minor may be designed to meet a student's particular career goals. Such a minor usually includes at least three courses from various selected departments or programs. The Advisory Committee should include one or more members of the Graduate Faculty selected for their overall expertise in the interdisciplinary area.

VIII. THESES OR DISSERTATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS

- A. Thesis or Dissertation Preparation and Format.** A thesis is required for the Master of Science degree and a dissertation is required for the Doctor of Philosophy degree. For non-thesis programs, the thesis requirement is replaced by course work for the Master of Soil Science and by a project for the Master of Natural Resources. All costs for preparation of the thesis or dissertation will be borne by the student. With consent of the Advisory Committee, the student must prepare the thesis or dissertation and submit the thesis or dissertation electronically (see the web site <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/etd/>). The student is responsible for the content and the proper format of the thesis or dissertation. Information on the required format and organization, as well as other regulations, is presented in the "Thesis and Dissertation Guide." Copies may be downloaded at no cost from the web site <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/etd/docs/etd-guide.pdf>
- B. Final Oral Examination for Master's Students.** It is the responsibility of the student to schedule the final oral examination. The examination may be scheduled only when all requirements, except completion of final course work for the final semester, have been satisfied. To schedule the oral examination, the Advisor will submit at least **two weeks** prior to the proposed date of the examination a written notification to the Director of Graduate Programs for a Request for Permit to Schedule Master's Oral Examination (see a copy on Appendix page A-2). The Request for Permit must be received in the Graduate School at least ten working days prior to the proposed examination date.

The following requirements must be met prior to scheduling the examination:

1. Signed Patent Agreement form;
2. Graduate Advisory Committee appointed by Graduate School;
3. Plan of Graduate Work submitted to Director of Graduate Programs;
4. Grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 or higher; and
5. Thesis complete, except for such revisions as may be necessary as a result of the examination, and submitted to members of Advisory Committee (for Master of Science only).

- C. Preliminary and Final Oral Examinations for Doctoral Students.** It is the responsibility of the student to schedule the preliminary and final oral examinations. To schedule the oral examinations, the student must contact committee members and the previously appointed Graduate School Representative to establish a date and time. The Advisor then will submit at least **two weeks** prior to the proposed date of the examination a written notification to the Director of Graduate Programs for a Request for Approval to Schedule Doctoral Oral Examination (see copy on Appendix page A-3). The Request for Approval must be received in the Graduate School at least five working days prior to the proposed examination date.

The following requirements must be met prior to scheduling oral examinations:

1. Signed Patent Agreement form;
2. Graduate Advisory Committee appointed by Graduate School;
3. Plan of Graduate Work approved by the Graduate;
4. Grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 or higher;
5. Completion of all course work relevant to the preliminary examination;
6. The proposed date for the preliminary oral examination is no earlier than the end of the second year of graduate study and not later than one semester (four months) before the final oral examination;

7. Written preliminary examination completed successfully;
8. The lapse of at least one semester (four months) between preliminary and final oral examinations; and
9. Thesis complete, except for such revisions as may be necessary as a result of the examination, and submitted to members of Advisory Committee and to the Graduate School Representative.

D. Submission of Thesis or Dissertation to Graduate School for Review. A thesis or dissertation must be presented to the Graduate School for review at least four weeks prior to the last day of classes in the semester or summer session in which the degree is to be conferred (for an academic calendar, see the Graduate School Home Page at the web address <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/>) and after the **unconditional** pass of the final oral examination. Submission is by appointment only and follows a detailed process. Students should obtain the electronic version <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/etd/docs/etd-guide.pdf> of “Thesis and Dissertation Guide” to avoid any misunderstandings or delays in processing their submissions. Also, the Thesis Editor conducts frequent workshops for thesis and dissertation preparation. The schedule of these workshops is available on the Graduate School Home Page at <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/etd/>. **As of June 2002, all thesis and dissertations will be required to be submitted electronically.**

IX. TUITION AND NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENCY

A. Waiver of Out-of-State Tuition. For all out-of-state students on an assistantship and with U.S. citizenship or residence visas, the in-state tuition is paid by the assistantship for two years for Master’s students and for three years for Doctoral students. The Graduate School can grant a waiver of out-of-state tuition **only for the first year of residency**. It is the responsibility of these students to apply for North Carolina residency immediately upon their arrival on campus. **Failure to apply for North Carolina residency in a prompt manner will result in the student being subject to paying out-of-state tuition after the one-year waiver expires.** Information concerning the establishment of North Carolina resident status and an application for Residence and Tuition Status can be obtained from Dee Ann Cooper. The information is summarized below.

B. Establishment of North Carolina Resident Status. The following information is for incoming graduate students who are not residents of North Carolina and who wish to establish legal residency for tuition purposes.

Two inquiries are made of students enrolled in North Carolina universities and colleges who desire to be classified as in-state students for tuition purposes. First, students must demonstrate that they have in fact lived in North Carolina for a minimum period of twelve months immediately prior to enrollment or re-enrollment. Second, students must be able to demonstrate that their presence in the state constituted legal residence.

Under North Carolina law, legal residence means more than simply living in the state. More specifically, it means maintaining a domicile (permanent home of indefinite duration) as opposed to a temporary residence incident to enrollment in a university, college, or technical institute of the state. The individual seeking to become a North Carolina resident must demonstrate that he or she is financially independent of parent(s) or guardian if the parent(s) or guardian are non-residents of North Carolina and must demonstrate a visible means of support substantiating the claim of financial independence. If the individual has not been entirely self-supporting during the last 24 months, a completed affidavit may be required from the parent(s) to indicate the amount of support provided.

Further, and equally important, once the individual has clearly established the intent and financial independence, he or she must maintain North Carolina residence for **twelve months immediately prior** to the semester in which the in-state status can be made effective.

In order to be considered for a reclassification as a resident of North Carolina for tuition purposes **at the end of a minimum 12-month period**, a person must do the following things:

1. Maintain and reside in a domicile or permanent home of indefinite duration for at least twelve months immediately prior to the semester in which the in-state status can be made effective;
2. Perform certain residency acts in North Carolina, such as obtain a driver's license, register a motor vehicle and register to vote at least twelve months immediately prior to the semester in which the in-state status can be made effective, and file a North Carolina income tax return at the appropriate time;
3. Clearly demonstrate a visible means of support substantiating a claim of financial independence as evidenced by cumulative year-to-date wage earning statements.

In order to determine whether a given student has established a legal residence in North Carolina, school officials must be able to conclude from information supplied by the student that the conduct of the student, taken as a whole, demonstrates his or her intent to make North Carolina a permanent dwelling place. **It is the responsibility of the student to provide all information requested.**

To start the process, before applying for in-state classification, it is important to change all of the following as soon as possible. These items must all be **completed by the end of the first ten days of classes** if a person is to be considered for residency for the third semester of study. **Completion of these acts begins the 12-month waiting period.**

1. Driver's License (or North Carolina Identification Card if student does not drive):

- a. Information: 715-7000
- b. Locations of licensing offices:
 - 1100 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh – 733-3025
 - 6081 Capital Boulevard - 850-2892
 - Forest Hills Shopping Center, Garner - 662-4366
 - 211 North Academy Street, Cary - 468-0319
- c. If a student drives but does not own a car or carry insurance, a waiver may be signed at the Driver's License office stating that the student will not drive until she or he is insured. A student who does not drive may obtain an identification card at a cost of \$10.00.
- d. Procedure:
 - Obtain booklet on North Carolina driving regulations from a licensing location (referenced above).
 - After reading the booklet, take written driver's test, road signs exam, and eye test.
 - North Carolina license, valid for up to eight years, is issued immediately.
 - Driver's license from prior state is residence is forfeited.
 - Cost of North Carolina driver's license - ranges from \$10-\$20 depending on birth date (\$2.50/yr.)

2. North Carolina Motor Vehicle Registration:

- a. Customer Service: 715-7000
- b. Locations of offices of the Department of Motor Vehicles:
 - South Hills Mall, Cary (nearest to campus) - 469-1444
 - North Hills Shopping Plaza - 781-4967
 - 1100 New Bern Avenue - 733-3025
- c. Procedure:
 - Contact insurance company and obtain insurance forms.
 - Take proof of insurance from a company authorized to do business in North Carolina and policy number, out-of-state title, and a valid registration card from the state of prior registration to an office of the Department of Motor Vehicles to have the car registered and the title transferred.
 - Obtain a permanent license plate and validation stickers.
 - Cost for first-time registration is \$210.00. The first-time cost includes plates, a \$35.00 title fee, highway use tax, and notary fee. The annual renewal fee will be \$25.00.
 - The vehicle must be inspected within ten days of registration at an authorized inspection station (many service stations are inspection stations) and then re-inspected annually. The

cost of inspection is a fee of \$30.00 plus costs of any repairs needed in order to pass inspection.

3. Voter Registration

- a. Location of offices of the Wake County Board of Elections:
 - 339 South Salisbury Street - 856-6240
 - Any branch of the Wake County Public Library (there is a branch in Cameron Village near campus) or Driver's License office
 - Various public assistance agencies
 - Agencies serving persons with disabilities
 - Public high schools
- b. For voter registration, you will need
 - To be at least 18 years old.
 - To have been a permanent legal resident for at least 30 days.
 - To have an identification with full legal name, such as a birth certificate, Social Security card, passport, or driver's license.

4. List Personal Property for Taxation:

- a. Personal property taxes are local county taxes. There is no state tax imposed on personal property. In most cases, taxable personal property consists of motor vehicles.
- b. Location of Wake County Revenue Department is Room 1100, Wake County Court House, 300 South Salisbury Street, 856-5400.
- c. Process for listing personal property for taxes:
 - Motor vehicles: the tax listing for motor vehicles occurs when the vehicle is registered.
 - Billing for taxes will be approximately three months after a motor vehicle has been registered. For those living within the Raleigh city limits, the tax bill includes a \$10.00 annual City of Raleigh auto fee/tax. The bill can be paid by mail.
 - The amount of the tax varies according to the assessed value of the vehicle.
 - Failure to pay motor vehicle property taxes gives the county the authority to "block" registration records; consequently, the registration cannot be renewed for that vehicle until back taxes and penalties are paid.

5. File State Income Tax:

- a. Location for the North Carolina Department of Revenue is Revenue Building, 501 North Wilmington Street - 733-3991 for general information.
- b. To file:
 - File North Carolina state income tax return by April 15 of each year.
 - Taxes for North Carolina state income are withheld from monthly assistantship paychecks and are listed on the W-2 forms received in late January or early February.
 - The amount of state income taxes to be paid varies, but with proper filing, a refund of all or most of the money withheld from an assistantship is possible.

6. Bank Accounts

Establish accounts in a bank in North Carolina or, if you already have an account in a branch of a North Carolina bank that is located in another state, convert the account to a branch of that bank within North Carolina.

C. Filing the Residency Application.

OBTAIN: North Carolina Driver's License
North Carolina Vehicle Registration
North Carolina Voter Registration

FILE: Personal Property Taxes (automatic when motor vehicle is registered)
North Carolina Income Tax Return

CONVERT: Bank Accounts

Obtain and complete the Residence-and-Tuition Status Application. In addition to the application, copies of the following documents must be attached:

1. North Carolina driver's license;
2. North Carolina vehicle registration;
3. North Carolina voter registration;
4. North Carolina income tax returns;
5. Year-to-date cumulative wage earning statements from all jobs held for the current year;
6. Listing of personal property taxes;
7. Student loan agreements, financial aid forms, etc. if applicable;
8. Marriage certificate, if residency is to be based upon the spouse's residentiary acts, and copies of the spouse's residentiary acts;
9. If an alien, a Residence Supplemental Status Form (available in 106 Peele Hall) accompanied by copies, **both front and back**, of the approval for permanent residence status and showing the date of adjudication by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

This application must be filled out **in its entirety** via the website at <http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/grad/students/current/resident.htm>. The application should be submitted no earlier than 75 days prior to the semester or summer session for which you wish to be considered. In order to be considered for the fall semester, the application should be submitted beginning June 1; for the spring semester, October 1; for first summer session, March 1; and for second summer session, May 1.

A decision on residency status will be mailed in approximately ten working days. If denied North Carolina residency for tuition purposes, an appeal of the decision is possible. A student appealing a residency status decision will be notified by letter approximately two weeks prior to the scheduled appeal hearing. A five-member committee meets once or twice a month to hear appeals. At this time, the applicant can, and should, attend to clarify points and to present additional arguments in her or his favor. If necessary, further appeals are possible.

D. Some Important Instructions and Information about North Carolina Residency.

1. The Residence-and-Tuition Status Application is a generic application used by both undergraduate and graduate students.
2. The application must be filled out **in its entirety** and must be accompanied by copies of driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration, North Carolina income tax returns, year-to-date cumulative wage earning statements, student loan forms, personal property taxes, and, if applicable, marriage certificate and Residence Status Supplemental Form. Students should be particularly encouraged to keep copies of their North Carolina income tax returns for their records as well as a supporting document to accompany the residency application.
3. The applicant is encouraged to keep a copy of the completed application for personal records.
4. Omissions of any of the requested documentation and/or failure to fill out the application in its entirety will necessitate the return of the application to the student for additional information, further delaying a decision.
5. An application is strengthened by the inclusion of copies of the oldest residency acts, i.e. original driver's license, original vehicle registration, oldest North Carolina income tax return, and so forth.
6. A student who for whatever reason has misplaced or lost his or her driver's license may obtain a Motor Vehicle Record Check from the Department of Motor Vehicles at 1100 New Bern Avenue in Raleigh for a \$7.00 charge (\$5.00 for uncertified copy). This report details a person's complete North Carolina driving history, including the date that the North Carolina driver's license originally was obtained.
7. International students in possession of a B, F, H (in most cases), J, L, and M visa, among others, are not eligible for North Carolina residency for tuition purposes.

8. Resident aliens who are in possession of Form I-151 or Form I-551 (Alien Registration Receipt Card or “green card”) and who are applying for in-state residency for tuition purposes must also complete the Residence Status Supplemental Form and include a copy of the **front and back** of the Alien Registration Receipt Card.
9. The applicant will be notified by letter of any and all actions taken regarding the application. If there are any questions, the applicant will be contacted before any decision is made and will be notified of the decision by letter within approximately 14 days. ***Please do not call.***

X. SCHEDULE OF REQUIRED ACTIONS FOR THE SOIL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Action	When Required	Initiated By
File complete, official transcripts from all universities and colleges attended, including degrees and dates awarded	Before the beginning of the first semester of enrollment	Student is responsible for providing official transcripts
New Hire Paper Work	Upon Arrival	Student through Dee Ann Cooper, 2321 Williams Hall
Entrance visit with Department Head	Soon after arrival	Student through Martha Leary, 2229 Williams Hall
Entrance visit with Director of Graduate Programs	Soon after arrival	Student through Dr. Jot Smyth, 3104 Williams Hall
Patent Agreement (see form on Appendix page A-1)	Soon after arrival	Student through Dee Ann Cooper, 2321 Williams Hall
File proposed Plan of Graduate Work for Master’s and Doctoral	During first semester of course work or no later then when 12 hours of course work completed	Initiated by student with Advisor and approved and submitted to the Graduate School by Director of Graduate Programs
Register for Seminar (SSC 601 or SSC 801)	During or before third semester in residence	Student
Assignment of Graduate School Representative (Doctoral students)	After the advisory committee has been approved by the Graduate School	Appointed by the Graduate School
Language proficiency memorandum (when applicable for International students)	Prior to preliminary oral examination	Student
Preliminary (Doctoral) oral examination	No later than one semester prior to final oral examination and after written preliminary examination has been completed successfully. Request for Approval to Schedule Doctoral Oral Examination must be received within Graduate School at least 5 working days prior to proposed examination date	Initiated by student and submitted to the Director of Graduate Programs for transmittal to the Graduate School
Report on preliminary oral examination (Doctoral)	Immediately after preliminary oral examination is completed	Submitted to Director of Graduate Programs for transmittal to the Graduate School

Action	When Required	Initiated By
Application to Graduate	By the end of the third week of classes of the semester in which the student plans to graduate	Completed and submitted by student in SIS via MyPack Portal
MS (thesis-based)/Ph.D. exit seminar	About one or two weeks prior to or after final oral examination	Student through Chair of Seminar Committee
Final oral examination for Master's student (see form on Appendix page A-2)	Request for Permit to Schedule Master's Oral Examination must be received in the Graduate School at least 10 working days before the proposed examination date	Initiated by student and submitted to the Director of Graduate Programs for transmittal to the Graduate School
Report on final oral examination	Immediately after final oral examination is completed	Submitted to Director of Graduate Programs for transmittal to the Graduate School
Submission of thesis or dissertation to the Graduate School	After final oral examination is successfully completed and by the graduation deadline for that semester or summer session	Student must submit ETD file via email to Erica Cutchins, Graduate School Thesis Editor, (Erica_Cutchins@ncsu.edu)
Final oral examination for Doctoral student (see form on Appendix page A-3)	No earlier than one semester (4 months) after successful completion of Preliminary Oral Examination. Request for Approval to Schedule Doctoral Oral Examination must be received in the Graduate School at least 5 working days prior to proposed examination date	Initiated by student and submitted to the Director of Graduate Programs for transmittal to the Graduate School
Turn in keys to Departmental Office	Prior to departure	Student through Martha Leary, 2229 Williams Hall
Hazardous Waste Minimization Check-Out Form (see Appendix page A-4)	Prior to departure	Student through Martha Leary, 2229 Williams Hall
Exit interview with Department Head	Prior to departure	Student through Martha Leary, 2229 Williams Hall
Forwarding address to Graduate Services Coordinator	Prior to departure	Student through Dee Ann Cooper, 2321 Williams Hall

XI. DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

A. Graduate Research & Teaching Assistantships. Joint Research & Teaching assistantships awarded through the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) are limited to 2 years for the Master of Science degree, 3 years for the Doctor of Philosophy degree for students with a Master's, and 5 years for the Doctor of Philosophy degree for students who enter the Doctoral program from the Baccalaureate degree. In the latter case, the stipend for the first year must be at the Master's level and may be increased to the Doctoral level at the beginning of the second year. The time limitation begins with initiation of the graduate program. The eligibility requirement for a CALs research assistantship is a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or greater, which is the same as the eligibility for Special Talent Certification. Graduate assistants may not be reappointed during a period of academic probation.

B. Benefits and Requirements of Graduate Student Support/Full-time Enrollment Plan. This is a summary of the Support/Full-time Enrollment Plan for graduate students who receive an assistantship. Details of the plan can be found at the web address <http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/support-plan/docs/gssphdbk.pdf>

1. Benefits:

- Full payment of in-state tuition
- Full payment of out-of-state tuition (tuition waver, first year only)
- Health insurance

For more detailed information regarding your health plan, visit this web site:

<http://www.hillchesson.com>

2. Eligibility Requirements:

- Minimum stipend level of \$667/month or \$8,000/yr for 12-month appointment
- Semesters of full-time enrollment:

Master's	4 semesters
Doctorate	
with Master's	6 semesters
without Master's	8 semesters
- Enrolled for graduate studies after 1997 Summer I Session

3. Enrollment Requirements:

- Minimum credit hour requirements for degree:

Master's	30 hours
Doctoral	72 hours (18 hours may be transferred from Master's)
- Enrollment for a minimum of 9 credit hours per semester until completion of minimum credit-hour requirements and full-time enrollment for degree.
- Enrollment for a minimum of 3 credit hours per semester after completion of minimum credit-hour requirements and full-time enrollment for degree

C. Teaching Requirement. All graduate students on an assistantship are required to assist in the teaching program within the department. Master's students are required to assist in the equivalent of two sections of the 3-hour laboratory of the introductory soils course (SSC 200); Doctoral students are required to assist in the equivalent of three sections of the SSC 200 laboratory. Assignments to other courses are based on equivalent contact hours. The assignments will be made by the Department Head in consultation with the Academic Coordinator and the Director of Graduate Programs. As soon as the assignments have been made, students should contact the instructors with whom they will be working.

Graduate students are required to attend the Departmental Teaching Workshop and the University Teaching Effectiveness Workshop usually presented just prior to the start of the Fall semester. Academic credit for teaching can be gained by registering for Mentored Teaching (SSC 685 or SSC 885). Graduate students who are not on assistantship also can receive credit for Mentored Teaching by participating in the teaching program.

- D. Seminar Requirement.** Master's and Doctoral students are required to register for a minimum of one credit hour of seminar (Masters: SSC 601, Doctoral: SSC 801) during the first three semesters in residence, excluding summer sessions. In addition, within about two weeks before or after their final oral examination, Master of Science and Doctoral students are required to present an "exit" seminar covering the results of their thesis or dissertation research. While Master of Soil Science and Master of Natural Resources students are not required to present an exit seminar, they are encouraged to do so.
- E. Professional Meetings.** Graduate students are encouraged to attend professional meetings. If an oral or poster paper is presented, students may apply for partial financial support from departmental funds to attend one meeting during Master's studies and two meetings during Doctoral studies. The Department Head determines the amount of money allocated toward transportation, the number of days per diem at the in-state rate, and registration at the student rate subject to the availability of funds and the concurrence of the Advisor. An out-of-state travel authorization must be processed and approved prior to the trip to provide Workmen's Compensation coverage. Travel by state vehicle is encouraged for students on graduate assistantships.
- F. Departmental Vehicles.** All state vehicles are for official use only. Operators of state vehicles must abide by all state laws and regulations. Only persons employed by the University are allowed to operate state vehicles due to insurance considerations. Graduate students on assistantships meet the employment criterion; graduate students not on assistantships should check with their Advisor. Students operating state vehicles should check with their Advisors concerning procedures for purchase of gasoline, maintenance, etc.
- G. Administrative Support.** Legitimate work for graduate students by Departmental support personnel includes word processing of materials clearly related to faculty-associated research. These materials include rough drafts, research reports, and manuscripts. Administrative work that is not approved includes personal letters, class reports, theses and dissertations, and similar materials. Teaching assistants can utilize Departmental support staff to prepare tests, handouts, overheads, and other materials required for teaching. Graduate students should make arrangements for support through their Advisors rather than directly through support staff.
- H. Office Supplies.** The Department provides office supplies only for conducting faculty-related research. Graduate students who need supplies for this purpose must obtain them through their Advisors rather than from support staff.
- I. Photocopying.** Use of photocopy equipment within the Department is limited to the administrative support staff. All requests by graduate students for photocopying must be transmitted through their Advisors to the staff. Departmental equipment cannot be used to photocopy personal materials such as class notes, etc.
- J. Financial Support for Research.** Materials, supplies, equipment, in-state travel, and support services required for research by graduate students will be provided through State and Federal funds or from grants and contracts. Procedures for purchasing service and support materials locally or from vendors can be obtained in the Departmental Accounting Office in Room 2224 Williams Hall. All requests by graduate students for services and support are to be directed through their Advisors.
- K. Service Laboratory and Analytical Equipment.** Requests by graduate students for analytical services to support their research should be channeled through their Advisors. Requests to use analytical instruments in the Service Laboratory should be directed to Guillermo Ramirez in Room 3319 Williams Hall. Requests to use instruments or equipment in other laboratories should be directed to the faculty member in charge of that laboratory.
- L. Safety Training.** Use of some facilities within the Department and other University locations require safety training. The Department provides safety training sessions for the Grinding Room (see Guillermo Ramirez, Room 3319 Williams Hall, for information and sign-up) and for use of pesticides (see Mark Barnes, 3404 Williams Hall for information and sign-up).

M. Annual Leave and Sick Leave. Graduate assistants do not earn vacation or sick leave; however, reasonable provisions for such absences may be arranged with the Advisor.

N. Outside Employment. Outside employment that interferes with the Departmental obligations of graduate students is prohibited. Additionally, no University supplies, equipment, facilities, or personnel may be used in connection with outside employment.

XII. COMPUTER RESOURCES

A. Computer Facilities:

The department does not maintain a common area for student computer use. Many faculty members, however, have computer facilities available for student use in individual labs and work areas. You should check with your advisor about the availability of computer facilities in their areas.

B. Guidelines for using Departmental Computer and Peripherals:

In addition to the rules and regulations of the University for use of university-owned computer equipment, students should be aware of the following:

1. Networked computers in the Soil Science Department operate in a Microsoft Windows Network environment, and **each student needs to be assigned a username and password in order to be attached to a network environment.**
2. Any computer to be attached to a network connection within the Department of Soil Science must be registered and assigned a name and IP number before it can be connected.
3. Individual faculty members may have additional guidelines about the use of computers in their individual work areas. Please discuss issues such as loading new software, use of printers and paper, or changing computer configurations with the appropriate faculty member before making these changes.

C. The SSC Listserv Group for E-mail Communications. A listserv group for students is available for interactive e-mail communication among graduate students in the Department of Soil Science. Graduate students will be added to the SSC listserv group by providing Dee Ann Cooper with their unity e-mail address. Students then will receive an e-mail message acknowledging their subscription to the SSC listserv.

To post an e-mail to the entire SSC listserv group, address the message to soilgrad@lists.ncsu.edu.

Dee Ann Cooper is a member of the listserv group and uses it to send announcements to graduate students. Drs. Waggoner and Smyth also are members of the listserv group and use it to forward information of concern to students from the Graduate School and other sources.

XIII. UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

A. Organization. The University Graduate Student Association (UGSA) functions as a voice for graduate students in dealing with problems concerning graduate education. All graduate students are automatically members of the association. The UGSA President has full voting membership on the Administrative Board of the Graduate School, and UGSA has the ability to broach responsible grievances to the administration on behalf of any graduate student. The UGSA Web Site Home Page can be accessed at <http://ugsa.ncsu.edu/>.

B. UGSA Council. The UGSA Council consists of elected representatives from each department and meets each month to discuss issues that are of concern to all graduate students. Information about new academic policies, social events, and other activities of concern to graduate students are welcome. Graduate students are urged to attend meetings of the UGSA Council and to participate in UGSA committees. The UGSA has a travel fund that provides modest support for graduate student travel to professional meetings and a thesis fund that provides modest support for thesis or dissertation preparation.

XIV. UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION TRAVEL FUND

A. Purpose. The UGSA seeks to aid graduate students in their professional activities. The purpose of the Travel Fund is to subsidize, not reimburse, students for their participation at professional meetings. These guidelines and the application for reimbursement from the Travel Fund can be downloaded from the web site http://ugsa.ncsu.edu/?page_id=55

B. Eligibility.

1. Eligibility for funding is based on participation at a professional meeting. Participation is defined as:
 - a. Presentation of a paper by the applicant;
 - b. Discussant on a panel or round table discussion;
 - c. Workshop director or moderator; or
 - d. Presentation of original work, such as art, design, or a poster presentation.

Note: There are many conferences that students are invited to attend due to their classroom or research achievements. Despite this honor, the Travel Fund is limited and must, therefore, restrict funding to only those who meet the above definition of participation.

2. The UGSA is authorized to make only one allocation per degree program CSU, i.e. once per Master's program and /or once per Doctoral program.

C. Procedures.

1. Travel Fund applications and expenditure vouchers are available. (A copy of the application is on Appendix A-5).
2. The Travel Fund application must be received by the Travel Fund Administrator before the date of the meeting. The applicant will be notified via letter upon receipt of the application by the Travel fund Administrator.
3. In addition to this application, one of the following must be submitted:
 - a. An abstract as it appears in the meeting or conference bulletin; or
 - b. A letter from the conference committee verifying your participation in the conference.
4. The student must submit a UGSA expenditure voucher (see form on Appendix page A-6) and legible photocopies of all receipts to the Travel Fund Administrator within two weeks of her or his return to NCSU. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of any reimbursement from the UGSA. Due to various changes in bookkeeping regulations, photocopies of receipts must be legible to be acceptable for submission. In addition, please separate receipts before photocopying them. Copies of receipts that overlay each other are not acceptable. Also, charge card receipts are not acceptable. The Travel Fund Administrator will notify the applicant upon receipt and satisfactory completion of the expenditure voucher. Vouchers missing any information will be returned to the applicant for completion.

D. Funding.

1. No travel advances will be granted.
2. The UGSA Travel Fund will subsidize the attended days of the meeting only.

3. The amount of reimbursement cannot be determined until the submission of the expenditure voucher and receipts. Please use the funding standards below if you require an estimate of your reimbursement.
4. Funding will be calculated using the following schedule:
 - a. **Transportation:** 25% of any transportation expenses not involving a personal vehicle. This includes:
 - Airplane, train, or bus fare;
 - Taxi, subway, or shuttle fare;
 - Tolls;
 - Rental car fees; and
 - Gasoline expenditures if a rental car is used
 If a personal vehicle is used, mileage will be reimbursed at a rate of \$0.25 per mile for a trip of 60 miles or less and \$0.20 per mile for a trip of more than 60 miles.
 - b. **Lodging:** the daily cost, not to exceed \$20 per day.
 - c. **Registration fee:** 50% of registration fee for the meeting or conference.
 - d. The **total reimbursement** will not exceed \$150.00.
 - e. Food and entertainment are not reimbursable. Please do not submit receipts or report any money received for food and entertainment.
5. Funding will be distributed on a semester basis, with the two summer sessions considered as one semester. In order to receive reimbursement for a particular semester, the meeting or conference must take place prior to the last day of final exams during that semester. Reimbursement checks will be sent out at or near the end of each semester. You may therefore expect a 30- to 60-day wait after the semester has ended before you receive a check from UGSA. Those students who do not return from a conference before final exams should expect some delay in the receipt of their checks.
6. Falsification of applications or receipts will result in denial of current or future subsidy while at NCSU.

E. Additional Funding.

The Travel Fund Administrator strongly encourages applicants to seek additional funding from outside sources. Places to seek funding include a grant held by your major professor, or the on-line graduate fellowship and scholarship file located on the University's Mosaic system. The use of departmental automobiles should also be investigated. If additional funding is secured, this must be reported on the expenditure voucher. Do not subtract this additional funding from your total expenditure.

If you have any questions about the above guidelines, please contact the Travel Fund Administrator at the following address:

University Graduate Student Association
 Travel Fund Administrator
 c/o NCSU Libraries
 Box 7111
 Raleigh, NC 27695-7111
 515-3303

XV. UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION THESIS FUND

- A. **Guidelines.** These guidelines and the application for reimbursement from the Thesis Fund can be downloaded from the web site http://ugsa.ncsu.edu/?page_id=57
- B. **Eligibility.**
 1. Any NCSU graduate student in a thesis program is eligible except students whose advisor and/or scholarship or fellowship pays for the thesis or dissertation.

2. The UGSA is authorized to make only one allocation per degree program at NCSU (i.e. once per Master's program and/or Doctoral program).

C. Procedure.

1. Thesis Fund applications are available from the Administrative Support Specialist, UGSA representatives, Thesis Fund Administrator, and the Travel Fund Web site at <http://ugsa.ncsu.edu/forms/thesis/UGSAthesisfundapplication.pdf> (A copy of the application is on Appendix A-6).
2. The application must be received by the Thesis Fund Administrator before the student's graduation date.
3. In addition to the application, the student must submit legible photocopies of all itemized receipts to the Thesis Fund Administrator. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of any reimbursements from the UGSA. Due to various changes in bookkeeping regulations, photocopies of receipts must be legible to be acceptable for submission. In addition, please separate receipts before photocopying them. Copies of receipts that overlay each other are not acceptable. Also, charge card receipts are not acceptable.

D. Funding.

1. No advances will be granted.
2. The money from the Thesis Fund will cover the following items:
 - a. Cost of acid-free paper,
 - b. Number of copies made, and
 - c. Personal binding.
3. Due to the limited amount of funding, the total reimbursement will not exceed \$40.00.
4. Reimbursements from the Thesis Fund will be distributed at the end of the Fall and Spring Semesters and also at the end of the Second Summer Session, depending upon in which semester the student graduates.
5. Falsification of applications or receipts will result in denial of current or future subsidy while at NCSU.

If you have any questions about the above guidelines or suggestions for improvement in the process, please contact the Thesis Fund Administrator at the following address:

University Graduate Student Association
 Thesis Fund Administrator
 c/o NCSU Libraries
 Box 7111
 Raleigh, NC 27695-7111
 515-3303

XVI. SOIL SCIENCE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

A. Web Page Site. The Home Page for the NCSU Graduate Student Association is located at the web address http://www.ncsu.edu/stud_orgs/gsa

B. SSGSA Officers for 2011-12.

President[Virginia Brown](#)
 Vice President[Nape Mothapo](#)
 Secretary[Kate Kulbok](#)
 Treasurer[Pukhraj Deol](#)
 Seminar Snack Coordinator[Erika Larsen](#)
 Social Chair.....[Stephen Holland](#)
 UGSA Representative[Arun Jani](#)
 Alternate UGSA Representative[Ethan Lineberger](#)

C. SSGSA Constitution.

Article I. Name & Purpose

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Soil Science Graduate Student Association.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to lobby the administration on behalf of the soil science graduate students.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. All Soil Science students enrolled in graduate school at North Carolina State University.

Article III. Officers

Section 1. The elective officers shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Representative, Alternate Representative and Social Chair.

Section 2. Any soil Science graduate student that will be enrolled the entire term is eligible for office. Officers shall serve a term of one year. Officers will be elected before the conclusion of the spring semester of each year. Elections will be conducted by, but not limited to paper ballots distributed to every Soil Science GSA member's mailbox in Williams Hall. An officer may not be reelected to the same office unless no other members are nominated to run for that office. In the event that an office is not filled in an election, or an office becomes vacant, the elected officers shall share the duties of that office until their terms are finished or another election is held. The Vice President shall be responsible for the elections.

Section 3. The Soil Science GSA membership may impeach officers for: ineligibility as specified in Article III, Section 2; failure to perform his or her constitutional duties as specified in this Constitution. Officers may only be impeached with a three-quarter's majority vote of all voting Soil Science GSA members. Impeachment proceedings and voting will take place at regular meetings in the same fashion as other issues as specified in Article VI, Section 2.

Section 4. The officer responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

President: Shall preside over all Soil Science Graduate Student Association meetings; organize the Willie Woltz lecture series; and act as a liaison between the Soil Science Graduate Student Association and the Soil Science administration.

Vice President: Shall attend all Soil Science faculty meetings and report any pertinent information to the other officers and/or members at the regular meetings; serve as parliamentarian and ensure that the constitution is upheld and be responsible for elections; coordinate interactions between graduate students and visiting students; and organize doughnuts for the coffee pot on the first Wednesday of each month during the school year.

Secretary: Shall be responsible for communications including a newsletter that shall contain: summaries of the previous Soil Science Graduate Student Association meeting, a tentative agenda for the next meeting including the issues submitted for discussion. The deadline for the newsletter, that is to be distributed to all the members of the SSGSA will be the Monday before the meeting.

Treasurer: Shall maintain the Soil Science Graduate Student Association financial records; spend Soil Science Graduate Student Association money in a manner consistent with the decisions of the Soil Science Graduate Student Association membership.

Seminar Snack Coordinator: Shall organize weekly seminar snacks by delegating food

pick up, preparation, clean up, and any necessary fundraising.

Representative: Shall represent the Soil Science Graduate Student Association at the North Carolina State University Graduate Student Association meetings, and vote in a manner consistent with the decisions of the Soil Science Graduate Student Association membership. The Representative shall also report on the North Carolina State University Graduate Student Association meetings at the Soil Science Graduate Student Association bimonthly meetings.

Alternate Representative: Shall fulfill the North Carolina State University Graduate Student Association requirement of serving on a committee. Shall represent the Soil Science Graduate Student Association at North Carolina State University Graduate Student Association meetings when the Representative is absent, and vote in a manner consistent with the decisions of the Soil Science Graduate Student Association membership. The Alternate Representative shall also report on the North Carolina State University Graduate Student Association meetings at the Soil Science Graduate Student Association bimonthly meetings.

Social Chair: Shall organize and promote social events for Soil Science Graduate Student Association members which may include, but are not limited to intramurals, Friday happy hours, outdoor excursions, sporting events, and educational field trips.

Section 5. Any of the duties above may be freely exchanged between consenting officers.

Article IV. Dues

Section 1. No dues shall be exacted from members.

Article V. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to the constitution shall be presented by members of the Soil Science Graduate Student Association in writing and read at a regular meeting but shall not be voted upon until the next regular meeting, and then only after informing each member of the proposed amendments. A majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting shall be required.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. The officers shall meet at the discretion of the president, but no less than twice per semester.

Section 2. Any member of the Soil Science Graduate Student Association may submit any topic for discussion to the council in writing. Any issue that is received at least one week prior to the meeting will be included in the newsletter and will be discussed at the following meeting. A vote as to what action will be taken can take place at the meeting or be postponed until the following meeting. A two-thirds majority of the members attending the meeting will be necessary before any action is taken. If a two-thirds majority is not reached, the issue may again be submitted to the council in writing.

Section 3. Issues that receive a two-thirds majority vote will become the responsibility of a committee. The committee's function will be to further research the issue and at such time as is deemed appropriate by the council, carry out any appropriate actions necessary. The committee will consist of at least three Soil Science GSA members at least one of which will be a council member. If there are not three members willing to serve on a specific committee, the issue will be dropped. Any issue that is dropped can be resubmitted to the council in writing as specified in Article VI, Section 2.

- Section 4.* Meetings shall be conducted as follows:
1. Call to order by the President.
 2. Treasurer's report.
 3. Vice President's Soil Science faculty meeting report.
 4. Representative's report.
 5. Committee reports and discussion of old issues.
 6. Discussion of new issues.
 7. Voting.

Section 5. Soil Science Graduate Student Association meetings shall loosely follow Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Order. The President shall be the final arbiter of the parliamentary rules. The President may limit debate to reasonable time limits and may impose reasonable time limits on individual speeches. A majority of members present may overrule these limits if they so desire. Such a resolution shall be voted upon immediately and without debate. Meetings should occur no less than once per semester.

Section 6. Each member shall have one vote. The President must select the method of voting from the following choices: roll call, show of hands, voice, or secret ballot.

Article VII. Willie Woltz Lecture Series

Section 1. The President will be responsible for the organization of the Willie Woltz lecture series. The Vice President will be responsible for the nominations and elections. Elections will be conducted by, but not limited to paper ballots distributed to every Soil Science GSA member's mailbox in Williams Hall.

Article VIII. Ratification

Section 1. To ratify this constitution, the membership must approve it by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership of the Soil Science Graduate Student Association who participate in the voting.

Section 2. This constitution supersedes in all ways any other constitution the Soil Science Graduate Student Association has ever had.

**APPENDIX
FORMS**

Patent Agreement	A-1
Request for Permit to Schedule Master's Oral Examination.....	A-2
Request for Approval to Schedule Doctoral Oral Examination	A-3
Hazardous Waste Minimization Check Out Form	A-4
University Graduate Student Association Travel Fund Application	A-5
University Graduate Student Association Thesis Fund Application.....	A-6

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
The Graduate School

Patent Agreement

To be Completed by ALL Graduate Students

I have read and I understand the Patent Procedures of North Carolina State University. <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-10-00-01> I also understand that compliance with the Patent Procedures is a condition of my being a graduate student at North Carolina State University.

I, therefore, agree to abide by the Patent Procedures, including any amendments which may be adopted from time to time.

I acknowledge my obligation to communicate promptly to the University Office of Technology Transfer a full and complete disclosure of all inventions. Further, I will assign, and hereby do assign, to the University my right title and interest in all inventions that I conceive or reduce to practice during the course of my employment or in connection with my use of university facilities or funds administered by the University.

In the event that the University determines, in its sole discretion, to pursue patent or other intellectual property protection, I agree to execute any assignments or other documents necessary to comply with the terms of the Patent Procedures, and to cooperate in the preparation of patent applications and other documents necessary in prosecution of the patent. I also understand that University's funding agreements with third parties, including the United States Government, impose certain obligations with respect to rights in inventions and, when requested to do so by University, I will execute assignments or other documents necessary to comply with the terms of the funding agreements.

I understand that, unless otherwise specifically agreed in writing, I am entitled to a percentage of royalties received by University from the commercialization of my inventions, as set forth in the Royalty Sharing Regulation (<http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/research/REG10.00.3.php>) of North Carolina State University, as may be amended from time to time.

I do not have any employment, consulting or other agreement with any third party which grants rights that are in conflict with this Agreement, and I agree that I will not knowingly enter into any such agreement.

Student's Full Name (Typed or Printed)

Date

Student Signature (By my signature on the line above, I hereby agree to abide by the patent policies of North Carolina State University.)

Student ID Number

Major Department

**** PLEASE CHECK ONE **** Master's Doctorate

Revised 04/01/2010

North Carolina State University
The Graduate School

Request To
SCHEDULE MASTER'S ORAL EXAMINATION

Must be submitted at least ten working days prior to exam date

To: Dean of The Graduate School

From: Program Director: _____
Director's name/Program name

Student Information:

Name: _____ ID Number: _____

Degree/Program: _____ Major: _____

Date (optional): _____ Time (optional): _____ Place (optional): _____

Please check one: thesis non-thesis

Verify that (please check items below):

The following committee has been approved by the department/program:

a. _____ b. _____
 Chair Co-chair (choose one) Co-chair (member assumed if unchecked)

c. _____ d. _____

e. _____ f. _____

g. _____ h. _____

The above committee and the Plan of Work have been submitted to SIS by the department or program and have been approved.

One or more of the committee or the student will be located remotely. Yes No. (if yes, please attach supplemental form "Request to Conduct Master's Remote Oral Exam").

DGP Signature/Date: _____

.....
Graduate School Approval/Date: _____

3/1/2011

North Carolina State University
The Graduate School

REQUEST TO SCHEDULE DOCTORAL ORAL EXAMINATION

Preliminary, Final

This Form Must Be Submitted At Least Two Weeks Prior To Proposed Date Of Exam

To: Dean of The Graduate School

From: Program Director: _____
Director's name/Program name

Proposed Examination:

Day/date _____ Time _____ Room/bldg _____

Student Information:

Name: _____ ID Number: _____

Program or Dept: _____ Degree/Major: _____

Dissertation
Title: _____

Verification:

1. The student has completed all written examinations/proposals in our department and in his/her minor field. The committee members listed below have agreed to attend at the above date and time.

a. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Chair <input type="checkbox"/> Co-chair (choose one)	b. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Co-chair <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-chair (member assumed if unchecked)
c. _____	d. _____
e. _____	f. _____
g. _____	h. _____

2. The Graduate School Representative, _____, has agreed to attend the examination at the above time.

3. I verify that the student's current committee, as listed above, and completed courses have been compared to the approved POW and that any discrepancies in SIS have been reconciled and corrected.

4. One or more of the committee or the student will be located remotely. Yes No. (if yes, please attach supplemental form "Request to Conduct Doctoral Oral Remote Exam").

Director of Graduate Programs (Sign/Date): _____

.....
Graduate School Approval/Date: _____

11/30/2010

Hazardous Waste Minimization
CHECK-OUT FORM

This form has been created to reduce the chemical surplus and unknowns as well as hazardous waste left behind when a person leaves the University. Your cooperation in completing it, and in properly disposing of your materials will be greatly appreciated. Please complete and turn in to the Main Office, 2234 Williams Hall.

NAME: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

Soc. Sec. No. _____

Faculty _____ **Staff** _____ **Student** _____

Separation Date _____

Location of Potential Wastes/Surplus Chemicals from my work at NCSU (building & room number) _____
Not Applicable _____

Measures taken to dispose of the materials listed above

Signature _____ Date _____

I have inspected the area(s) mentioned above and have found them to be in order.

Signature _____ Date _____

Department Head of Graduate Administrator (if faculty or staff)
Research Advisor (if student or PostDoc)

cc: Department Heads

Return to:
Environmental Health and Safety Center
Box 8007
NCSU Campus

UGSA Travel Fund Application

A. General Information

Applicant Name: _____

Degree: M. S. _____ Ph.D. _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

Email Address: _____

School Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Office Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Have you received previous travel assistance funding from the UGSA? _____

If yes, date received _____ amount received \$ _____ degree sought then _____

B. Conference Information

Name of Conference: _____

Title or Description of Work: _____

City and State or Country of Conference: _____

Meeting Chairperson: _____

Meeting Dates: _____ to _____ Date of presentation: _____

UGSA Thesis Fund Application

Applicant Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

Degree: M.S. Ph.D. other _____ Graduation Date: May Aug Dec _____
(circle one) (circle one) (year)

Department: _____ Email Address: _____

School Address: _____

Office Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Forwarding Address: _____

(Address where check will be mailed – make sure this is the same address in the NCSU system!)

Receipt Summary:

Paper _____

Copy Cost _____

Binding _____

Total _____

In addition to this application, ORIGINAL receipts MUST be submitted.
Please tape original receipts to an 8.5"x11" sheet of blank paper.

Student's Pledge:

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the regulations governing the allocation and use of UGSA thesis funds, posted online at <http://ugsa.ncsu.edu/info/thesis/thesisfund.html>

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This form and original receipts must be received by the UGSA prior to your graduation date!

Return completed form with original receipts to:

University Graduate Student Association
Travel and Thesis Fund Administrator
c/o NCSU Libraries
Box 7111
Raleigh, NC 27695-7111