ATS Supervisory Committee Policies

Supervisory Committees

Department of Atmospheric Science (ATS)

The MS supervisory committee must consist of at least three members. A PhD supervisory committee must consist of at least five members. The committee must be approved by the chair of the department.

Composition of Committee Members (CMs)

a) The majority (three out of five for PhD and two out of three for MS) must be tenured or tenure-earning faculty members from the Atmospheric Science Department. Emeritus professors can be included. As of Fall 2012, these members include Profs. Bitzer, Carey, Christy, Christopher, Griffin, Han, Knupp, Mecikalski, Nair, McNider, Newchurch, Perkey, and Sever.

b) Committee chair must be full time ATS tenured or tenure-earning faculty member.

c) The remaining members can be affiliate graduate faculty or from other departments on campus.

d) Affiliate graduate faculty are nominated by the chair and appointed by the Graduate Dean using a formal process as outlined in the Graduate Catalog. Check with the ATS office staff assistant for a recent list of our adjunct faculty.

Paperwork and other information

- All affiliate faculty must have a recent two-page curriculum vitae on file. They must be nominated by the chair of the department.
- Contact the ATS office or visit the website for a current list of tenure-earning/tenured faculty and affiliate graduate faculty.
- A meeting consisting of chair, student, and advisor is mandatory before the committee is formed and paperwork is completed.

Note. Sometimes the advisor who supervises the research is not a faculty member. In this case an ATS faculty member will act as the committee chair. The committee chair’s role is to make sure that University guidelines are followed and that the student and other committee members understand their respective roles and responsibilities. The advisor usually introduces the student at the seminar (open door portion) and can help the student field questions. The committee chair often runs the closed door deliberations and help guide discussion but certainly all committee members, especially advisor, have input.

It is beneficial that a reminder is sent to committee members, including observer on the day of the defense.