

## Bioengineering (BioE) M.S. and Ph.D. Committee Make-up

**Master's Thesis Committee** – Composed of three members of the KU Graduate Faculty:

- the Advisor, who must be a BIOE Affiliate Faculty member with dissertation status\*, serves as the committee chair
- a minimum of one member with a primary appointment within the School of Engineering

**Doctoral Dissertation Committee** – Composed of five members of the KU Graduate Faculty:

- the Advisor, who must be a BIOE Affiliate Faculty member with dissertation status\*, serves as the committee chair
- a minimum of two members with primary appointments within the School of Engineering
- a minimum of one member with a primary appointment outside the School of Engineering
- one Graduate Studies Representative (see definition below)

**Graduate Studies Representative** – The Graduate Studies Representative (or External Committee Member) can be any member of the Graduate Faculty who holds regular or dissertation status\* and whose faculty appointment lies outside of the committee chair's department. Their primary appointment must be on the Lawrence campus. *The role of the Graduate Studies representative is designed to assure the appropriate standard of fairness, professionalism, judgment, and skill are applied throughout the examination process for the benefit of the institution and in the best interest of the student. As an independent participant observer, this member should have no personal or professional duality/conflict of interest with other members of the committee or the student that would prevent him or her from the unbiased fulfillment of these responsibilities.* The full policy can be found [here](#).

~Additional members are allowed on both MS and PhD committees at the discretion of the student and advisor but the above standards must first be established.

\*In order for faculty to have dissertation status, they must (at a minimum) be tenure or tenure-track faculty at KU and hold a PhD. If you have questions about faculty status, please see the BIOE Program Assistant.