Department of Genetics Cell Biology and Anatomy (GCBA) guidelines for supervisory committee constitution-approved by GCBA graduate committee on 11/16/10 (updated 11/14).

1. Departmental requirements regarding the make-up of a GCBA supervisory committee:

The supervisory committee for GCBA students should be composed of at least five faculty members with expertise in the student's area of research or in areas related to it. The thesis advisor is both a member of the supervisory committee and typically also functions as the chair of the supervisory committee. At least two committee members, one of which may be the thesis advisor, must be at the rank of associate professor or higher. At least two members of the supervisory committee must be faculty whose primary appointment is in GCBA. The other members of supervisory committee may be any member of UNMC faculty or a faculty member from another institution. The student should consult with his/her thesis advisor to form the supervisory committee. The committee should serve the needs of the student. As projects proceed in new directions or perspectives change, the composition of the committee can be changed in consultation with his/her thesis advisor.

2. Formally establishing a supervisory committee:

Once the student and mentor agree upon the proposed committee members, the mentor or student should contact each proposed member and obtain their consent to serve. To formally constitute the supervisory committee, the student must first get approval of the proposed committee from the graduate committee. To do this, the student or student’s mentor should send out an email to the graduate committee members indicating 1) who is proposed for the committee, 2) a BRIEF description of why each faculty member was chosen, and 3) a BRIEF description indicating how the committee satisfies the departmental guidelines (see above). The current members of the GCBA graduate committee are:

Dr. Karen Gould (Chair)
Dr. Vimala Band
Dr. Runqing Lu
Dr. San-Ming Wang
Dr. Shantaram Joshi
Dr. Andrew Dudley

Once the graduate committee has approved the proposed supervisory committee membership, student formally constitute the must constitute the supervisory committee by adding the proposed committee members in the “Committee Management” tab in Seguidor (http://unmc.edu/gradstudies/seguidor/index.html). This will be routed to the graduate committee chair electronically for final approval.

A student’s supervisory committee must be constituted within 3 months of selecting a mentor. According to the Graduate college guidelines, once the supervisory committee is formally constituted, the supervisory committee must convene within 1 month for the first meeting.