

**Effective Date:**

**November 20, 2013**

**Retired:**

**Revised:**

**Approved by: Maria F. Lima, Ph.D. Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research**

*Maria F. Lima*

**Subject: Faculty eligibility to train PhD students**

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Promote and advance graduate student and graduate faculty research excellence at Meharry Medical College
- Ensure competitiveness of graduate training at Meharry Medical College

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Meharry Medical College School of Graduate Studies and Research was founded to provide excellent research training to underrepresented students in the areas of biomedical sciences and public health.

Meharry is committed to excellence in research training. In order to achieve this goal, the research mentors of PhD students must have external funding to support the research efforts of the students, and to make the students competitive for a research career.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**1. Biomedical Sciences Ph.D.**

The School of Graduate Studies and Research offers a course of study leading to the doctoral degree in Biomedical Sciences.

**2. Training Faculty**

Faculty who have external funding, resources and time commitment to support PhD training.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. At the end of the first year of the PhD program, students will communicate their mentor choices to the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) of the student's training program of choice.
2. The DGS will submit the name of the proposed mentor to the appropriate Department chair.
3. The Department Chair will evaluate the appropriateness of the faculty member's grant resources and time commitment to train the PhD student.
4. The Department Chair will then submit the name to the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies for final approval.