





## Primary Advisor Selection

By signing below, the student has actively participated in the research groups of the indicated faculty members and has selected a primary research advisor. The advisor approves of the selection and invites the student to formally join their group. **Note: this action cannot be performed earlier than December 1<sup>st</sup> of the student's first year.**

Student:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Primary Advisor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Co-Advisor:

(If applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Graduate Faculty  
Advisor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## ADVISOR SELECTION FORM INFORMATION

Complete this form and obtain all applicable signatures when selecting a primary research advisor for the first time or switching from one research group to another. Return the completed form to the Staff Graduate Advisor.

The choice of research advisor is one of the most important decisions made in graduate school. For this reason, students are strongly encouraged to take the time to consider this decision carefully in order to make the best choices for themselves. Student choices made too soon with inadequate information or from a feeling of obligation may negatively impact the student's graduate career. Thus, students should consider all options and make an informed decision that is mutually agreed upon by both student and research advisor.

In order to remain in good academic standing, students are required to formally join a research group by the end of their second quarter, but not sooner than December 1st of their first year. Participation in at least three research groups is required before selecting a primary research advisor. Examples include:

1. Attending at least three group meetings
2. A multi-week lab rotation including collaboration on a project
3. Interviews with the group members and PI
4. Other forms of active exploration

Students are encouraged to interview additional members of the faculty with whom they share research interests and participate in additional research group rotations if desired. . Students are not obligated to make a commitment to a particular professor prior to their second quarter and prior to completion of the interview and rotation processes. This is true even in cases where a student has worked for and been paid by a particular professor during the preceding summer.

The choice of primary research advisor is not an absolute commitment. If the original choice is not ultimately the perfect match, students are permitted to switch groups. However, because this can cause a significant delay to a student's time to degree, this situation should be avoided when possible. Students intending to switch groups must complete this form, but are not required to complete additional rotations or interviews.