

SOM Graduate Advisor Change Considerations

Students assigned to a permanent advisor can request to change to a new advisor. To systematically document all relevant facts at the time of the request, the following points and questions should be addressed in writing or via discussion with the associate dean for graduate education in SOM before final approval of the change can be made.

- Please provide a written or verbal request from the student
- Why was the advisor change requested?
- Are there unresolved issues of any kind between the current advisor, anticipated advisor, program and student?
- What options were provided to the student such as
 - staying with current advisor and working out the existing challenges?
 - staying with current advisor and involving a long-term mitigator?
 - having co-advisors that include the original advisor?
- Is the student aware of time to degree guidelines?
- What are the implications of the advisor change for the student's
 - research project?
 - PHD candidacy?
 - graduate advisory committee?
 - course requirements?
 - time to degree?
 - continuation in their current degree program?
 - path toward degree completion?
 - visa?
 - financial support from SOM Dean's office, their Department or Advisor?
 - fellowship and fellowship sponsor?
 - training grant and training grant PI?
- Has the departmental administrator been made aware of the advisor change?
- Is there anything else that should be discussed or documented?

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