

## UF- BOTANY PROGRAM PRACTICES

Questions 1A, 1B - Communication with Potential Doctoral Students

Questions 2A, 2B – Admission

Questions 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D – Orientation and Advisement

Questions 4A, 4B – Social Interactions

<b>Questions</b>		<b>Answers</b>
1A	When potential graduate students contact your department for information, who handles the inquiries? (Please provide the title rather than names)	Graduate Coordinator, Graduate Program Assistant, or Department Chair
1B	What type of information is usually sent in response to such inquiries?	Answers to specific questions URLs for department web page and on-line application Advice to contact potential advisors
2A	Who in your department makes the decision about which applicants to admit (or to recommend for admission)? (Please provide the title rather than names).	Graduate Student Affairs Committee consisting of the Graduate Coordinator and three other faculty members
2B	What criteria are used in making this decision?	GRE scores, grades, student's essay, letters of recommendation, coursework, experience in work or research, match of interest and availability of potential advisors, race (if known), nationality, balance of students in various departmental programs, availability of teaching assistantships or fellowships, ability of advisor to support student with research grant or other funds.
3A	How does your department orient new students to graduate study?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Orientation session given by the Graduate School</li> <li>2. Orientation session given by the Graduate Coordinator</li> <li>3. Meeting with research advisor</li> </ol>
3B	Who handles initial course advisement for new doctoral students, and how is that person selected?	The student's research advisor Students are matched with an advisor prior to admission.
3C	Describe the process by which a student selects or is assigned a dissertation chair.	Students communicate with potential advisors during the application process. This is initiated by the student, or

		advisors contact students who have applied, but who did not indicate interest in a particular lab. Advisors tell to the Graduate Affairs Committee their willingness to advise the student, and this is an important factor in the committee's decision to admit. Students are not admitted unless they are matched with an advisor.
3D	Can students in your department change dissertation chairs? If so, how is that change accomplished?	Yes. It occurs by mutual agreement between advisors.
4A	Other than formal coursework, does your department offer, sponsor, or support activities designed to foster social support and/or collaborative learning among doctoral students? (e.g., study groups, student organizations, student-student mentoring programs) If so, please describe.	Our students have a student association, but it has not been very active.
4B	Does your department hold regular social activities in which students can interact informally with faculty members and other students? If so, please describe	Before our weekly seminars we offer refreshments and during this time students and faculty can socialize. We have an annual picnic in the spring and a holiday party in the fall.