

1.2 Graduate Studies Partners

The graduate experience at Alfaisal University and the work of the *Graduate School (GS)* are dependent upon the efforts of the *Research, Innovation & Graduate Council (RGC)*, *College Graduate Offices*, and the *Student Affairs Office*.

1.2.1 Research, Innovation & Graduate Council

The *Research, Innovation & Graduate Council (RGC)*, which is chaired by the Vice President for Research & Graduate Studies, is responsible for safeguarding the excellence of graduate education. The *Council* is the administrative arm of the *Graduate School* and is empowered on its behalf to enforce its regulations and policies. The Council membership will consist of the College Vice Deans for Research & Graduate Studies, the Director of the Graduate School, and the Director of Research & Innovation. The duties and functions of the *RGC* consist of the following:

- Sets the policies and standards for graduate admission, and degrees in coordination with the Colleges and Student Affairs Office.
- Reviews established degree programs and responds to issues referred to it by the Vice President, the Provost's Office, and the Deans
- Recommend internal regulations, in coordination with academic departments and Student Affairs, for the organization of graduate studies.
- Recommend graduate courses for approval, amendment, and modification, extending to programs as well.
- Endorse titles of graduate degrees in both Arabic and English on recommendation of colleges' councils.
- Recommend awarding of graduate certificates in the case of thesis option programs.
- Decide on all matters related to graduate students in the university with Student Affairs.
- Set the general framework for research plans, rules for theses writing, format for their production and templates of theses exam reports.
- Examine periodic reports submitted by the departments of the university.
- Study matters forwarded to it for consultation by the University Council, the Council of Deans or Provost Office and offer suggestions and advice.

1.2.2 Role of College Graduate Offices

- Reviews new graduate programs before submission to RGC
- Responsible for setting up *Thesis Advisory Committees* for graduate students
- In charge of thesis defenses