Proposed Faculty By-Law Change (in red):

1.2 Associate Members of the Graduate Faculty

Individuals who meet the above criteria for members but are not presently qualified to direct student dissertation research may be appointed as Associate Members of the Faculty for a term of up to five years. In addition, biomedical professionals who are employed as staff by the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences or a University of Texas institution in Houston, and who hold appropriate graduate degrees may be appointed as Associate Members upon nomination by the Deans and approval by the Membership Committee. Responsibilities of Associate Members include those of Members except for the supervision of student dissertation research. Associate Members may apply for Regular Membership as appropriate.

The rationale behind this change is as follows:

1. MD Anderson Genetic Counselors do not hold faculty titles at MDACC. An appointment as a GSBS Associate Members currently requires them to first obtain an adjunct faculty appointment at another UTHealth School/Department. The change would allow Genetic Counselors to be appointed to the GSBS without holding such an adjunct appointment.

2. So that qualified GSBS Staff members may serve as a course director and/or sit on student committees.

In both situations, appointments would be made upon nomination by the Deans and approval by the GSBS Membership Committee. For further context you may wish to review the current GSBS Faculty By-Laws.