OMBUDS SERVICES FOR
GRADUATE EDUCATION

Ombuds Services for Graduate Education

The Graduate Ombuds Officer advocates for fair and transparent
processes of graduate education and provides equal, open access
to all parties: graduate and professional students, staff, faculty, and
administrators. The university is a large and complex institution,
and graduate and professional students often play multiple roles
(e.g., student, research collaborator, teacher, technician, and peer).
Misunderstandings and conflicts can arise in any one of these roles.
Having a safe and non-judgmental space to discuss concerns with an
Ombuds Officer can be a first step if you do not know where to turn. The
Ombuds Officer serves as an informal, independent, and neutral resource
for persons to discuss questions and concerns related to graduate
education.

The Graduate Ombuds Officer is guided and informed by the Code of
Ethics and Standards of Practice of the International Ombudsman
Association.

The Ombuds Officer can:

• Listen and help you achieve a greater understanding of the problem.
• Help you find information applicable to your situation and identify
  possible solutions to your problem.
• Explain University policies and procedures and how they apply to your
  specific case.
• Help you identify options for managing conflicts with colleagues,
  staff, faculty, and advisors.
• Help you achieve fair and equitable solutions to problems.
• Facilitate communication among people in conflict.
• Provide other types of assistance to help you resolve a problem
  informally.
• Refer you to formal grievance or appeal procedures if you wish to
  engage in a formal process.

For more information, please see the Graduate and Professional
School website (https://grad.tamu.edu/academics/academic-success-
resources/conflict-resolution/ombuds-services/) or contact Ombuds
Services at ombuds@tamu.edu.