PROPOSED POLICY ON THE AWARDING OF POSTHUMOUS DEGREES

Eastern Kentucky University recognizes the importance of acknowledging significant student achievement at all times, including following the tragic death of a student who has made substantial progress towards the completion of a degree and who has made noteworthy contributions to the University community.

It is therefore proposed that posthumous degrees be considered by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The student is nominated by the Chair of his/her major department.

2. At the time of his/her death, the student had achieved senior standing/or was within one year of graduation in the case of a Bachelor’s degree; fourth semester standing or within one semester of graduation in the case of an Associate’s degree; have obtained Candidacy plus completed 75% of program requirements for the Master’s degree.

3. The student had been in good academic standing in their program of study at the time of their death.

4. Documentation is provided of the student’s noteworthy contributions to the University community during his/her tenure at the University.

Nominations for posthumous degrees should be forwarded to the Chair of the Faculty Senate and copied to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will forward positive recommendations on to the Faculty Senate, unless there is an emergency situation. The Faculty Senate will forward positive recommendations on to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research for implementation. The appropriate degree would be awarded at the Commencement at which the student would have been otherwise recognized. The student’s family will be asked to identify an appropriate person to receive the diploma when the student is recognized at the appropriate time in the Commencement ceremony. Except for the fact that the individual receiving the diploma on behalf of the student would not be attired in cap or gown, there would be no other changes in the ceremony.

10/20/99
Senator Anderson reported that the Budget Committee met on Wednesday, October 13, 1999 at 4:00 p.m. in the Alumni Room of Keen Johnson. In attendance were Joy Anderson, Alice Jones, Kevin Rahimzadeh, Richard Rink, and Mark Wasicsko. The purpose of the meeting was to identify issues of faculty concern regarding University budgetary policies and to determine what role the committee might play in response to those issues. The committee determined that four merit attention:

• Faculty development funds
• Library resources
• Technology resources
• Employee benefits

In order to better understand how the University now allocates its resources in these areas, the committee's next step will be to compare current funding with that of Eastern's new benchmark institutions.

Reports from Ad Hoc Committees

There were no reports from Ad Hoc Committees. Senator Murray reported that Senator Collins has agreed to serve as chair of the AD Hoc Committee on College Credit for Workplace Training.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Proposal for A Policy on the Awarding of Posthumous Degrees

Senator Marsden presented an amended version of a proposal for a policy on the awarding of posthumous degrees, which had been presented at the October 4, 1999, meeting of the Senate. Senator Marsden stated that concern about the original proposal had been expressed about the need to include of masters levele students. He felt that the amended proposal addressed this concern and therefore moved approval. Senator Janssen seconded the motion. Senator Hill, referring to section four of the proposal, wondered what noteworthy contributions meant and how could they be documented. Senator Marsden responded that each department would have to evaluate a student's contributions, but he generally felt that it meant accomplishment above and beyond the degree requirements. Senator Spears explained that the impetus for the proposal came from the Art Department shortly after the tragic death of one of their outstanding undergraduate students. Senator Goodwin suggested for editorial consistency and specificity "his/her" should replace "their" in section three and replace "appropriate time" with "designated time" in the next to the last sentence of the last paragraph. Further discussion centered on such issues as the need to clarify what noteworthy contributions means, the problem with automatically granting the degree without any apparent standards, and the need for faculty to determine policy rather than families. Senator Wasicsko suggested combining sections one and four. Senator Marsden accepted this. Senator Schloemann suggested a friendly amendment to the motion to change "noteworthy contributions" to "noteworthy accomplishments." Senator Falkenberg moved to amend the motion to read: "The student is nominated by the Chair of his/her major department giving consideration to academic standing and noteworthy accomplishments within the university community during his/her tenure at the university." The motion was seconded by Senator Janssen. Senator Wasicsko suggested that after the word "university" the words "and greater" be added. Senator Collins called the question. The amended motion was approved. The Senate approved friendly motions and editorial changes, which Senator Marsden had accepted to the amended motion. The approved amended motion reads as follows:

Eastern Kentucky University recognizes the importance of acknowledging significant student achievement at all times, including following the tragic death of a student who has made substantial progress towards the completion of a degree and who has made noteworthy contributions to the University community. Therefore, a posthumous degree be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The student is nominated by the Chair of his/her major department giving consideration to the student's academic standing and noteworthy accomplishments within the University and greater community during his/her tenure at the University.

2. At the time of his/her death, the student had achieved senior standing/or was within one year of graduation in the case of a Bachelor's degree; fourth semester standing or within one semester of graduation in the case of an Associate's degree; have obtained Candidacy plus completed 75% of program requirements for the Master's degree.
3. The student had been in good academic standing in his/her program of study at the time of his/her death.

Nominations for posthumous degrees should be forwarded to the Chair of the Faculty Senate and copied to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will forward positive recommendations to the Faculty Senate, unless there is an emergency situation. The Faculty Senate will forward positive recommendations to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research for implementation. The appropriate degree would be awarded at the commencement at which the student would have been otherwise recognized. The student's family will be asked to identify an appropriate person to receive the diploma when the student is recognized at the designated time in the commencement ceremony. Except for the fact that the individual receiving the diploma on behalf of the student would not be attired in cap or gown, there would be no other changes in the ceremony.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to Amend a Previously Adopted Motion: Senator Harley

Senator Harley moved to amend a motion which was adopted at the Senate's May 3, 1999, meeting to read: "to amend section 3 of an action from the Ad Hoc Committee on Teaching by Contract Staff and Classified Personnel which was approved by the Faculty Senate on May 3, 1999. The change is to section 3 reads: Teach no more than one class (or 3 hour equivalent) during each term (fall, spring, intersession, summer)." Senator Banks seconded the motion. After some discussion which focused primarily on the issue of the possible discriminatory nature of the motion, the motion was approved.

Motions from the Council on Academic Affairs: Senator Marsden

Senator Marsden moved approval, seconded by Senator Dunston, of the following proposals from the Council on Academic Affairs:

- Proposed program/course changes for the Master of Science in Industrial Education-Technology Education option in the Department of Technology;

- Proposed program/course changes for the Master of Sciences in Industrial Education-Vocational Administration option in the Department of Technology;

- Proposed option name change in the Master of Science in Industrial Education-Industrial Training option from Industrial Training option TO Occupational Training and Development in the Department of Technology;

- Proposed option name change in the Bachelor of Science in Vocational Industrial and Technical Education-Industrial option from Industrial Training option TO Occupational Training and Development in the Department of Technology;

- Proposed NEW OPTION (Multi-Disciplinary Ph.D. program in Rehabilitation Sciences in collaboration with the University of Kentucky) within the Occupational Therapy program;

- Proposed program/course change for PHE 470 in the Department of Physical Education;

- Proposed program/course change for PHE 471 in the Department of Physical Education;

- Proposed program/course change for PHE 472 in the Department of Physical Education.
POLICY ON THE AWARDING OF POSTHUMOUS DEGREES

Eastern Kentucky University recognizes the importance of acknowledging significant student achievement at all times, including following the tragic death of a student who has made substantial progress towards the completion of a degree and who has made noteworthy contributions to the University community.

It is therefore proposed that posthumous degrees be considered by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The student is nominated by the Chair of his/her major department.

2. At the time of his/her death, the student had achieved senior standing/or was within one year of graduation in the case of a Bachelor’s degree; fourth semester standing or within one semester of graduation in the case of an Associate’s degree; have obtained Candidacy plus completed 75% of program requirements for the Master’s degree.

3. The student had been in good academic standing in their program of study at the time of their death.

4. Documentation is provided of the student’s noteworthy contributions to the University community during his/her tenure at the University.

Nominations for posthumous degrees should be forwarded to the Chair of the Faculty Senate and copied to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will forward positive recommendations on to the Faculty Senate, unless there is an emergency situation. The Faculty Senate will forward positive recommendations on to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research for implementation. The appropriate degree would be awarded at the Commencement at which the student would have been otherwise recognized. The student’s family will be asked to identify an appropriate person to receive the diploma when the student is recognized at the appropriate time in the Commencement ceremony. Except for the fact that the individual receiving the diploma on behalf of the student would not be attired in cap or gown, there would be no other changes in the ceremony.

Proposed: 10/20/99
Approved by Council on Academic Affairs: 10/20/99
Approved by Faculty Senate: 02/07/00
Approved by Board of Regents: 02/00