Policy Title: Posthumous Degrees, Conferral of

Responsible University Office:

University Office: Office of Student Affairs
Office Website URL: http://vpsa.uoregon.edu/
Policy Owner: Robin Holmes
Email: vpsa@uoregon.edu
Phone: (541)346-1137

DATE: January 18, 2013

Policy Concept Form: The policy concept form was approved by the Senior Vice President and Provost on the following date: This is an update of current policy.

NOTE: Policy development may not proceed until the policy concept has been approved.

Preamble:

Reason for Policy:
To establish the policy governing conferral of posthumous degrees for undergraduate, graduate, and law students.

Definitions:

Policy Statement:

Upon learning that a student has died, the Vice President for Student Affairs, with appropriate consultation from Academic Affairs, will confer with the University Registrar, and, if applicable, the Dean of the Graduate School or Dean of the School of Law, to determine if the student is eligible for a posthumous degree. If the student possessed the necessary academic credentials at the time of death, and if the family wishes, the Vice President for Student Affairs shall recommend that the University President authorize the posthumous issuance of the degree.

Procedures:
I. Undergraduate: Baccalaureate Degree Candidate
A. The Vice President for Student Affairs shall inquire of the University Registrar.
1. At the time of death, was the student a) officially enrolled or b) actively pursuing degree completion within one term of graduation?

2. Would the student have met all general education requirements for a degree, had s/he had the opportunity to a) complete the course work for which s/he was registered at the time of death or b) to complete coursework within one additional term?

B. If the answers to the two questions above are both yes, the University Registrar shall ask the student's major department(s) to evaluate the student's academic record to determine if satisfactory completion of current course enrollment(s) and/or completion of one additional term would have satisfied all major course requirements as required by the major department(s).

C. If all the above conditions are met, the University Registrar shall notify the Vice President for Student Affairs who, with appropriate input from Academic Affairs, shall consult with the University President. At the University President's direction, the Vice President for Student Affairs shall contact the deceased student's immediate family to determine whether the family is receptive to the University's granting a posthumous degree.

D. If affirmative, the University President may then direct the University Registrar to record final grades of "P" in classes in which the student was enrolled, record the award of the degree, order the appropriate diploma, and arrange for the appropriate listing in the commencement program and official degree lists.

E. The University President shall write a letter to the appropriate family member(s) announcing the honor of the posthumous degree and the date of the commencement ceremony at which the degree will be granted.

II. Graduate: Graduate or Law Degree Candidate

A. In consultation with Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Student Affairs shall inquire of the major department and Dean of the Graduate School or Dean of the School of Law whether the student, upon satisfactory completion of current course enrollments or one additional term of enrollment, would have satisfied requirements for the degree, and whether a thesis or dissertation would have been required for graduation.

B. If a thesis or dissertation would have been required, the Dean of the Graduate School or Dean of the School of Law shall consult with the chair and members of the thesis or dissertation committee to determine whether the student could have completed and defended the thesis or dissertation during the current or subsequent term or semester. The Dean of the Graduate School or Dean of the School of Law shall be informed of the determination.

C. If the student reasonably could have completed all requirements for the degree, then the Vice President for Student Affairs shall proceed according to I.C. et seq. above.

III. Exceptions to the policy will be based on a recommendation by the Provost to the University President.
Exclusions and Special Situations:

Procedures:

Forms/Instructions/Regulations:

Who is Governed by this Policy:
(Please mark all that apply by double clicking on box)
☑ Faculty
☑ Officers of Administration
☑ Students
☑ Staff
☐ Other: ______

Who Should Know this Policy:

Cross Reference to Related Policies:

Related Documents:

Frequently Asked Questions:

Revision/Development History:
02/10/1971 Originally Implemented
06/03/1992 Reviewed and Approval Recommended by President's Policy Council
06/03/1992 Enacted by University Assembly
Reissued by: The President
02/08/2010 Policy number revised from 2.000 to 02.99.02
01/17/2013 Policy Revised by Vice President for Student Affairs in consultation with the Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Senior Assistant to the President, Vice Provost of Academic Affairs and the University Registrar

Organizational Category:
(Please mark only one by double clicking on box)

☐ Administration and Governance
☐ Academic and Curricular
☐ Human Resources
☐ Facilities
☒ Students
☐ Finance and Business Affairs
☐ University Relations
☐ Health and Safety
☐ Research
☐ Information Technology
☐ General
POLICY CONSULTATION AND REVIEW

Consultation and review by the following individuals or groups:

Robin Holmes, Vice President of Student Affairs
Date: 2/19/13

Approved by Randy Geller by email
General Counsel
Date: 1/31/13

Senior Vice President and Provost
Date: 2/19/13

University of Oregon Senate President
Date: 6-7-13

Click here to add Name or Group

APPROVED BY:

President or Designee

Signature
Date: 6-15-13

POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE: 6-15-13

ASSIGNED POLICY NUMBER: 02.99.02
This looks ok to me.

From: Kathy Warden
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2013 1:05 PM
To: Randy Geller
Cc: Amanda Hatch; Robin Holmes
Subject: Policy for review: Conferral of Posthumous Degrees

Randy,

I’ve attached a policy, Conferral of Posthumous Degrees, which needs to be reviewed. I’d appreciate it if you could review it at your earliest convenience and let me know when you are finished. Thanks.

Kathy Warden
Program Manager
Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost
University of Oregon
(541)346-3531