

Report, #309 November 9, 2011

Faculty Status & Welfare Committee's Graduate Council Resolution

WHEREAS

The intent of the proposal as a whole, as expressed in the "Issues" Section of the Minutes from 9/1/11 meeting of the Graduate Council, is to shift the burden of decision-making to "colleagues [who] are best prepared to evaluate the candidates' contributions to graduate education, research/creative activity and service," and

WHEREAS

Point #4 of the proposal undermines this intent insofar as it transfers decision-making power from a candidate's peers (i.e. members of the Graduate Faculty within his/hers unit), to a candidate's administrative superiors (i.e. his/hers chair or dean).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

We urge the Graduate Council to reword Point #4 to conform with the proposal's intent and with due process rights as follows:

1. Any request must first be voted on by members of the candidate's unit who are on the Graduate Faculty (i.e. his/hers peers).
2. Any request for suspension must be presented with evidence of just cause, with the burden of proof on the chair or dean.
3. The candidate must be informed of the vote and allowed to provide a rebuttal (in writing or in person) before any decisions.