STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to standardize the awarding of posthumous degrees.

ENTITIES AFFECTED BY THIS POLICY

All academic and administrative units are potentially affected by this policy.

WHO SHOULD READ THIS POLICY

All academic, administrative faculty, individuals in supervisory roles, including but not limited to Deans, Directors, Chairs and Vice Presidents.

POLICY

A posthumous degree may be awarded to a student who has died prior to completion of degree requirements if the following requirements are met. A request for awarding a posthumous degree should be directed to the department of the major. A unit leader must complete the appropriate level Posthumous Degree Form posted with this policy on the Office of the Executive Vice President & Provost’s website at: http://provost.unlv.edu/policies.html.
Criteria

1. In order for a posthumous degree to be awarded, a student must have met the following criteria at the time of his/her death:

   a. Under normal circumstances, if an undergraduate, had completed all but the last year of course work, including all General Education requirements and had no more than 12 credits remaining of requirements in the major.

   b. If a non-thesis graduate student, was enrolled in the last semester of the program and had completed all coursework and capstone requirements.

   c. If a thesis graduate student, had completed all coursework and capstone requirements and the majority of research for the thesis, which could be compiled into a final product if desired.

   d. If a dissertation graduate student, had completed all coursework, passed comprehensive examinations, and conducted the majority of research for the dissertation, which could be compiled into a final product if desired.

2. The student was in good academic standing and had at least the minimum grade-point average (GPA) required for that particular major.

Recommendation

1. In the case of an undergraduate student, recommendation for award of the degree is made by the Department / Program and subsequently approved by the College / School Dean and the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

2. In the case of a graduate student, recommendation for award of the degree is made by the student's graduate committee and subsequently approved by the Department / Program, College / School Dean, and the Dean of the Graduate College.

3. All recommendations go to the Executive Vice President & Provost and then to the President for final approval.

4. Exceptions to the above requirements may be approved by the President.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Posthumous Degree Recommendation Form – Undergraduate
Posthumous Degree Recommendation Form – Graduate
CONTACTS

APPLICABLE DEPARTMENT CHAIR / UNIT SUPERVISOR
APPLICABLE COLLEGE / SCHOOL DEAN

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Flora Dungan Humanities Building (FDH) · Room 756
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