Communication from the Graduate Council
Karen Duderstadt, Chair

January 15, 2015

Jae Woo Lee, MD
Chair, Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction
Office of the Academic Senate, Box 0764

Re: Proposed Modification to the Graduate Division Regulations within the Bylaws of the Academic Senate

Dear Chair Lee,

The UCSF Graduate Council is requesting the addition of its Posthumous Degree Policy to the Regulations of the Graduate Council, Appendix II of the Bylaws, Regulations and Appendices of the University of California, San Francisco Division of the Academic Senate.

Proposed Language:

X. Posthumous Degree Policy. In rare cases, the Graduate Division will find itself with the prospect of awarding a posthumous degree. The awarding of such degrees will adhere to the following guidelines.

A. A formal request for a posthumous Ph.D. or Master's degree should be initiated by a family member, a faculty member, a dean, or a fellow student. If the request is not made by a family member, the family should be contacted and found to be receptive to the possible award.

If, in the opinion of the student's advisor, the dissertation is more than 50% complete, the Graduate Dean may elect to approve a posthumous PhD degree. If a doctoral student dies before all the degree requirements are met and the dissertation submitted, a posthumous master's degree would be appropriate.

If a master's student successfully completes one year of coursework and/or passes a qualifying examination, the Graduate Dean may elect to award a posthumous master's degree.

B. Degrees awarded posthumously should be noted in the Commencement program, and a member of the deceased student's family will be permitted to participate in the exercises. The student's diploma should be released or mailed to the person legally authorized to manage the deceased student's affairs. The posthumous nature of the award will be indicated on the diploma and on the student's official transcript.
January 29, 2015

Karen Duderstadt, PhD, RN, NP
Chair, Graduate Council
Academic Senate (UCSF)
500 Parnassus Avenue, MUE 231
San Francisco, CA  94143

Re: Graduate Council Proposed Bylaw Modifications

Dear Chair Myers:

Pursuant to Division Bylaw 120(B)(5), the Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction (CRJ) reviewed the request to add a Posthumous Degree Policy to the Regulations of the Graduate Council, Appendix II of the Bylaws, Regulations and Appendices of the University of California, San Francisco Division of the Academic Senate. This request was submitted to CRJ on January 15, 2015.

The Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction approves these modifications as proposed.

The proposed amendments must be approved by a vote of the Division, and subsequently approved by the University Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction before they may go into effect.

Sincerely,

Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction
Jae-Woo Lee, MD, Chair
Catherine Waters, RN, PhD, FAAN, Vice Chair
Gary Armitage, DDS
Michele Bloomer, MD
Marek Brzezinski, MD, PhD

Ex Officio Members
Douglas Carlson, JD
Anne Slavotinek, MD, PhD
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This policy was reviewed in 2015 by Graduate Council and approved. It is to be included in Appendix II, Regulations of the Graduate Council.

It is the request of the Graduate Council, that the Academic Senate’s Rules and Jurisdiction Committee approve the addition. The inclusion of this policy in the Graduate Council by-laws will align with other UC schools that have policies included in their bylaws. If you have any questions, please contact me or Senate Analyst, Kathleen Dargan, kate.dargan@ucsf.edu.

Sincerely,

Karen Duderstadt PhD, RN, NP
Chair, UCSF Graduate Council
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