

Policy on Posthumous Academic Recognition

Approved by Senate on January 26, 2007

Policy on Posthumous Degrees

(Printed on standard diploma paper, same wording as a regular diploma – per Clerk of Senate)

1. A posthumous degree will be granted to a deceased student only under the following minimum conditions. The student must have
 - a. Died within 12 months of the last registration;
 - b. Been in good academic standing of a high enough standard that eventual graduation was expected;
 - c. For a graduate degree, completed all course work and submitted a satisfactory draft of the thesis if required for the program;
 - d. For undergraduates in programs requiring 20.0 or more credits, completed at least 15.0 credits;
 - e. For undergraduates in programs requiring 15.0 credits, completed at least 12.0 credits.
2. The posthumous degree must be recommended by the department and faculty board and be approved by Senate.
3. Students who were in an Honours program at the time of death but are not eligible for a posthumous Honours degree may be recommended for the corresponding General degree, if the criteria for that degree are met.
4. Procedures:
 - a. On receiving notice of the death of a student, the Registrar determines if the student would be eligible for a posthumous degree and communicates this information to the department, the Clerk of Senate and the President.
 - b. The President or delegate will communicate with the next of kin.
 - c. The posthumous degree will be noted as such, in the Senate graduation list and the convocation program, but not on the diploma.
 - d. The diploma will be presented only to the next of kin or their delegate.

Policy on Certificate of Outstanding Academic Achievement – *in memoriam*

(Printed on display diploma paper)

1. A “Certificate of Outstanding Academic Achievement – *in memoriam*” will be awarded to a deceased undergraduate student only if the following minimum requirements are met. The student must have
 - a. Died within 12 months of the last registration;
 - b. Been in good academic standing of a high enough standard that eventual graduation was expected;
 - b. Completed at least half the degree credit requirements;
 - c. Distinguished him or herself academically through scholarship, leadership or service.
2. The certificate must be recommended by the department and faculty board and be approved by Senate.

3. Procedures:
 - a. The request to award such a certificate may emanate from others, but the next of kin must approve.
 - b. The President or delegate will communicate with the next of kin
 - c. The certificate will be presented only to the next of kin or their delegate.

Policy on Certificate Recognizing Academic Accomplishments
(Implemented June 2009 AVPSS/Clerk of Senate; Revised May 15, 2012)
(Printed on display diploma paper)

1. A "Certificate of Academic Accomplishment" will be awarded to a deceased undergraduate student in special cases where the student has:
 - a. Died within 12 months of the last registration;
 - b. Been in good academic standing – eligible to continue
 - c. Completed less than half the degree credit requirements but who has completed sufficient credits equal to or more than those required for the completion of 1st year;
2. The certificate must be recommended by the department and faculty board and be approved by Senate.
3. Procedures:
 - a. The request to award such a certificate may emanate from others, but the next of kin must approve.
 - b. The President or delegate will communicate with the next of kin.
 - c. The certificate will be presented only to the next of kin or their delegate.