Resolution 1415-SU-004

A Resolution in Support of GCBC Stipend Increase Recommendations

Author: Josh Coy (.82), President
Sponsor: The Executive Committee

WHEREAS The Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is the representative body of all graduate students enrolled in The Ohio State University (established by Article II.1 of the CGS Constitution); and

WHEREAS the Senate Graduate Compensations and Benefits Committee (GCBC) duties per Faculty Rule 3335-5-48.18 are defined as:

“(B) Duties and responsibilities.

(1) Study the adequacy and other attributes of the university's policies and provisions including stipends, outside professional services, and supplemental compensation.

(2) Conduct research and provide advice on economic support of graduate associates, professional development, quality and design of benefit programs, and appointment terms.

(3) Make recommendations to the university senate, the graduate council, the graduate school, and the office of academic affairs as appropriate”; and

WHEREAS GCBC is also charged with an annual review of graduate stipends per CGS Resolution 1112-SU-005 (passed July 15, 2011); and

WHEREAS GCBC’s formal recommendations for 2014 include “a three-year stipend increase of $1,500 per year, in line with previous requests from the Committee”; and

WHEREAS per GCBC’s 2014 report, “the stipend increase from 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 resulted in no change in Ohio State’s minimum stipends ranking among benchmark and public CIC institutions”; and

WHEREAS the current minimum stipend of $13,500 falls short of “the estimated cost-of-living expense for an Ohio State graduate student on stipend, totaling $15,984 over nine months in 2012”; and

WHEREAS this gap in minimum stipend and cost of living (which also does not take into account fees associated with enrollment not covered by tuition awards) has the potential to cause undue financial stress on graduate students; and

WHEREAS failure to keep pace on minimum stipends with benchmark institutions is a serious concern for CGS; and

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Council fully supports the recommendations from GCBC; and
LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the Council directs the President of CGS to advocate for this position on behalf of the Council to all appropriate members of The Ohio State University deemed necessary.

Date Approved 5/23/14

Josh Coy, President