RESOLUTION
Council of Graduate Students – University of Minnesota

Date: Nov 8, 2009
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Topic: Excused absences for Graduate Students with Dependents

WHEREAS, graduate students with dependents who are minors (“dependents” hereafter) may inevitably have to be absent from class meetings to address the needs of their dependents; these needs including, but not limited to, medical conditions of their dependents, and urgent medical conditions of scheduled caregivers of their dependents, and

WHEREAS, some courses on the Twin Cities campus require over 90% attendance as a criterion to receive a passing grade and credit for the course, or forced to accept low grade for these classes and

WHEREAS, graduate students with dependents who must be absent from class meetings of these courses because of the needs of dependents have been asked by the course instructors to withdraw from the courses, or forced to drop the courses, or to accept a low grade; hence these students have to retake the courses and delayed their graduation; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Council of Graduate Students (“COGS” hereafter) urges the University to create a policy to excuse the absence of graduate students with dependents from courses requiring over 90% attendance, when these students must be absent for the purpose of addressing the needs of their dependents, and

RESOLVED, that COGS will carry this resolution to the Graduate And Professional Students Assembly (“GAPSA” hereafter) and urge GAPSA to pass this resolution or one in support of it.