RESOLUTION
Council of Graduate Students – University of Minnesota

Date: 4/10/12
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Topic: Collegiate Fee Waiver for Graduate Students with a Tuition Waiver

Whereas, graduate students who receive a tuition waiver (graduate teaching assistants, graduate research assistants, fellows and others) are key partners in fulfilling the University's education and research missions, and the University’s strength and success depends upon attracting the best and the brightest students to these positions;

Whereas, graduate students may owe over $2,000 a year in mandatory fees that are not covered by their tuition benefit. These mandatory fees can amount to 10% or more of the gross pay of half-time graduate assistants.

Whereas, the services funded by the collegiate fee are intended to serve educational goals such as “advising, career services, computer labs, special equipment, orientation activities and other goods or activities intended to enhance the student experience”1;

Whereas, although the collegiate fee is only a small portion of the overall fees burden waiving this fee will reduce, somewhat, the level of fees burden on graduate student partners of the University,

Whereas, a collegiate fee waiver is consistent with the mission and intent of a tuition waiver for graduate student employees and fellows of the University. Therefore, be it;

Resolved, That the Council of Graduate Students respectfully requests the University Senate committee on committees and the University Office of Human Resources to offer an amendment to the administrative policy on Graduate Assistant Employment to include the payment or waiver of the collegiate fee.

Resolved, That the Council of Graduate Students respectfully requests that the Senate Committee on Educational Policy and the Graduate Education Policy Review Committee to offer an amendment to the draft policy on Fellowship Appointments to include the payment or waiver of the collegiate fee.

Passed by the COGS General Assembly 4/18/12

1 President’s Recommended FY12 Provisional Operating Budget Plan, page 21