



TO: Council on Graduate Studies Appeals Committee

FROM: Robert M. Augustine, Dean

RE: Petition for Degree Reinstatement
Andrea Walton in the Master of Arts in English

DATE: August 30, 2011

Introduction

Andrea Walton was admitted as a provisional degree candidate to the Master of Arts in English in the Summer of 2007, by Dr. Christopher Hanlon, Graduate Coordinator. After completing 12 semester hours of graduate study in provisional status and earning a 3.00 cumulative GPA, which is the required level of scholarship for degree candidacy, Andrea was admitted as a degree candidate in the Master of Arts in English in the Spring of 2008 by Dr. Hanlon. In December of 2008, the Director of Graduate Admissions informed Dr. Jad Smith, the new Graduate Coordinator, that Ms. Walton's scholarship at the conclusion of the Fall 2008 term had fallen below the 3.00 GPA standard required for candidacy and for degree completion. In addition, she had earned more than 9 semester hours of graded coursework below the grade of B. Dr. Smith approved returning Ms. Walton to non-degree status. He also approved that she continue to take graduate courses to improve her scholarly record. At the conclusion of the Spring 2011 term, Ms. Walton had completed 42 semester hours of graduate coursework. She had returned her cumulative GPA to the 3.00 required for degree reinstatement and degree completion. Her scholarly record reflected 27 semester hours of graduate study earning grades of B or better and 15 hours of graduate study graded at the C level.

Petition to the Appeals Subcommittee

On May 27, 2011, the Graduate School received a petition from Ms. Walton for degree reinstatement in the Master of Arts in English. She provided evidence that she had returned her cumulative GPA to the 3.00 level required for degree reinstatement. Dr. Ruth Hoberman, current Graduate Coordinator, also verified that only 6 semester hours of graduate coursework at the level of C would be used to complete the requirements for the Master of Arts in English.

Departmental Review

Dr. Hoberman, supports the student's request and notes that the factors that contributed to the problem appear to have been resolved satisfactorily. Dr. Hoberman stated that Ms. Walton has worked hard to return her cumulative graduate GPA to 3.00, which is the required standard. Ms. Walton is in compliance with all other policies.

Dean Recommendation

Based on the student's compliance with the required standards and policies and the support of the Graduate Coordinator, I recommend degree reinstatement to the Appeals Subcommittee.