

To: Ryan Hendrickson Ph.D., Interim Dean of the Graduate School

From: Angela S. Jacobs, Graduate Coordinator

Communication Studies

RE: Petition to authorize Associate Member to perform duties normally reserved for Regular Members

Date: April 26, 2017

CGS Agenda Item: 17-47 Effective Immediately

Dr. Andrew Robinson holds a specialization in Religion, Faith, and Communication. He also currently holds Associate Graduate faculty status (due to expire in April 2017) for his work on two thesis committees outside of the Communication Studies department.

We are seeking renewal of Associate status for one additional year for Dr. Andrew Robinson so that he may work with a Communication Studies student on his thesis titled *Male Sexual Assault Survivors, Faith, and Resilience* during the summer and fall 2017 semesters.

We do not currently have any Unit A faculty members who specialize in Religion and Faith Communication. Dr. Robinson's specialization will enhance the quality of graduate study in our program and will greatly assist our students in completing research in the area of faith and communication. The Communication Studies Graduate Faculty, Graduate Coordinator, and Chair of Communication Studies support this petition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Angela S. Jacobs

Associate Professor

Graduate Coordinator

Department of Communication Studies

asjacobs@eiu.edu

217-581-2020