POSTHUMOUS RECOGNITION - STUDENTS DEGREE

POLICY NUMBER: AAPC-POSTHUMOUSDEG

POLICY TYPE: ACADEMIC & ADMISSIONS POLICY COMMITTEE

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL TITLE: PROVOST & EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/30/2012

NEXT REVIEW DATE: APPROVAL PREVIOUS REVIEW PLUS FOUR (4) YEARS – 4/21/2019

SUPERSEDES POLICY DATED: 11/30/2012

BOARD OF REGENTS REPORTING (CHECK ONE):
☒ PRESIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATION (CONSENT AGENDA/VOTING ITEM)
☐ PRESIDENTIAL REPORT (INFORMATION ONLY)

I. POLICY STATEMENT

Awarding of Posthumous Degrees

Northern Kentucky University (NKU) recognizes the importance of acknowledging significant student achievement at all times, including following the tragic death of a student who has made substantial progress towards the completion of a degree at NKU or is enrolled as a student at NKU.

A. POSTHUMOUS DEGREE

1. and who has made noteworthy contributions to the University community. Therefore, a posthumous degree may be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:

   a. The student had been in good academic standing in his/her academic program of study at the time of his/her death.

   b. The student is nominated by the Chair/School Director of his/her student’s major/program department and then approved by the College Dean, giving consideration to the student's academic standing and noteworthy accomplishments within the University and greater community success during his/her tenure at the UniversityNKU.
2. c. At the time of his/her death, the student had achieved senior standing or was within one year of graduation in the case of a Bachelor’s degree; fourth semester standing or within one semester of graduation in the case of an Associate’s degree; have or obtained Candidacy plus—completed 75% of the program’s requirements for the Master’s degree.

3. The student had been in good academic standing in his/her program of study at the time of his/her death.

Nominations for a posthumous degree should then be forwarded to the approved by the appropriate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice Provost, the Provost, and the President. Upon the President’s recommendation, final approval from the Board of Regents is needed to award the posthumous degree.

3. The student’s family will be consulted, so as to best comply with their wishes. If desired by the student’s family, the appropriate degree diploma would be awarded at the commencement at which the student would have been otherwise recognized. The student’s family will be asked to identify an appropriate person to receive the diploma when the student is recognized at the designated time in the commencement ceremony. The posthumous degree will not be noted on the student’s academic transcript. An Other documentation advising note will be placed into SAP to indicate that a posthumous degree was awarded will be made by the University Registrar.

B. POSTHUMOUS CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

In the event that it is determined that a student did not meet the requirements for a degree, a “posthumous certificate of recognition” may be awarded, if appropriate, by the Vice Provost of Academic Affairs, President. The certificate recognizes a student’s progress—enrollment at NKU and progress toward the attainment of a degree.

1. A posthumous certificate of recognition can be issued if all of the following conditions are met:
   a. The student is enrolled at NKU but does not meet the requirements for awarding a posthumous degree, and the student is in good academic standing at the time of death.
   b. The student is nominated and approved in the same manner as described in section A “Posthumous Degree” above, except that there is no approval from the Board of Regents.

2. The certificate will not be noted in the student’s transcript.
II. ENTITIES AFFECTED

President, Provost, Vice Provost of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Vice Provost of Graduate Education Research & Outreach, College Deans, Department Chairs, School Directors, Program Directors, Associate Deans, Assistant Deans, Student Affairs and Enrollment and Degree Management, Student Affairs and Special Events

III. EXCEPTIONS

III. DEFINITIONS

Exceptions to this policy will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Posthumous Degree: A deceased student may be considered a candidate for a posthumous degree when nominated by the academic department chair in the department in which the student was enrolled at or prior to his or her death, and when minimum academic degree requirements have been verified.

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