

SENATE ACTION FORM

No. 1228

Subject: Posthumous Degrees policy, revision to SA #1223

Reference to Senate Minutes dated: March 21, 2022

Senate Action:

MOTION: APC – It is moved to approve the revised Posthumous Degrees policy for placement in University Regulations and in University Catalogs.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

Response requested:

Approval for placement in University Catalog

Approval for placement in University Regulations

Recommendation to Board for placement in Board Policy Manual

None (sent as information item)

Other action requested/comments:



Faculty Senate Chair

03/25/2022

Date

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Administrative review of Senate action (unnecessary for information items):

Reviewed by **VPAA/Provost**. Check if comments attached

Reviewed by **General Counsel**. Check if comments attached

Presidential action:

Approve Reject Return to Senate for discussion/modification (comments attached)

President/Designated Administrative Officer

Date

Date of Board approval (if applicable): not applicable

PLEASE RETURN SIGNED ORIGINAL AND ATTACHMENT TO THE FACULTY SENATE OFFICE, CARTER HALL 2004, BOX 75.
Faculty.Senate@unco.edu

Attachment to Senate Action #1228

Approved by the Faculty Senate

March 21, 2022

Policy revisions for inclusion in University Regulations and in University Catalogs
(additions/deletions highlighted)

University Regulations section:

3-8-104(2) Posthumous. Students who die during ~~the final semester of~~ their academic programs may be awarded posthumous degrees.

- (a) The request to award a posthumous degree may be initiated by the decedent's family, ~~the~~ major department/school/program area, or college, as well as by the Dean of Students.
- (b) The ~~CAO-Dean of Students~~, in consultation with the ~~Dean of Students, Registrar and, when appropriate, the Dean of the Graduate School and/or the decedent's department/school/program area, or college,~~ shall determine whether the student had made reasonable progress toward degree completion and did not have a significant disciplinary incident ~~following two conditions have been met.~~
- (i) ~~The student would have been eligible to graduate at the end of the semester or term, assuming satisfactory completion of enrolled course work and any additional degree requirements. Academic performance during the semester or term, however, will not be scrutinized or evaluated.~~
- (ii) ~~At the time of death, there were no outstanding criminal charges or violations of the Student Code of Conduct against the student, nor did the student die in the commission of a criminal act or violation of the Student Code of Conduct.~~
- (iii) ~~If the parties named in the first sentence of (2) above determine that there are extenuating circumstances, then the student shall be considered eligible for a posthumous degree.~~
- (c) ~~Upon determination that the student is eligible for a posthumous degree, the Dean of Students shall contact the decedent's family to determine whether the family approves of the posthumous degree award.~~
- (c-d) ~~If the conditions in (b) are met, Upon approval from the family, the Dean of Students shall communicate approval to the Registrar, who will shall withdraw the student from all unfinished courses the student was enrolled in at the time of death (if applicable) registered course work, order the appropriate diploma, and arrange for the decedent's listing decedent to be listed in the first available commencement program. If by this point it is no longer possible for the Registrar to execute these tasks in time for the forthcoming commencement, the posthumous degree shall be awarded at the next commencement.~~
- (d-e) The Registrar shall send notice of the posthumous degree award to the President, the ~~CAO-Provost,~~ and the decedent's major department/school/program area, and college.
- (e-f) The President shall write a letter to the decedent's family announcing the posthumous degree ~~award~~ and the date of the commencement ceremony at which the degree ~~will shall~~ be ~~awarded granted.~~
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Clean copy version below:

3-8-104(2) Posthumous. Students who die during their academic programs may be awarded posthumous degrees.

- (a) The request to award a posthumous degree may be initiated by the decedent's family, the major department/school/program area, or college, as well as by the Dean of Students.
 - (b) The CAO, in consultation with the Dean of Students, shall determine whether the student had made reasonable progress toward degree completion and did not have a significant disciplinary incident.
 - (c) If the conditions in (b) are met, the Registrar shall withdraw the student from all unfinished courses the student was enrolled in at the time of death (if applicable), order the appropriate diploma, and arrange for the decedent to be listed in the first available commencement program.
 - (d) The Registrar shall send notice of the posthumous degree award to the President, the CAO, and the decedent's major department/school/program area and college.
 - (e) The President shall write a letter to the decedent's family announcing the posthumous degree and the date of the commencement ceremony at which the degree shall be awarded.
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University Catalog placements:

- **UG Catalog:** <https://unco.smartcatalogiq.com/Current/Undergraduate-Catalog/Undergraduate-Information-and-Policies/Student-Policies-and-Procedures/Posthumous-Degrees>
- **GR Catalog:** <https://unco.smartcatalogiq.com/Current/Graduate-Catalog/General-Information/Policies-and-Procedures/Posthumous-Degrees>

Students who die during their academic programs may be awarded posthumous degrees.

- (1) The request to award a posthumous degree may be initiated by the decedent's family, the major department/school/program area, or college, as well as by the Dean of Students.
- (2) The CAO-Dean of Students, in consultation with the Dean of Students, Registrar and, when appropriate, the Dean of the Graduate School and/or the decedent's department/school or college, shall determine whether the student had made reasonable progress toward degree completion and did not have a significant disciplinary incident. following two conditions have been met:
 - (a) The student would have been eligible to graduate at the end of the semester or term, assuming satisfactory completion of enrolled course work and any additional degree requirements. Academic performance during the semester or term, however, will not be scrutinized or evaluated.
 - (b) At the time of death, there were no outstanding criminal charges or violations of the Student Code of Conduct against the student, nor did the student die in the commission of a criminal act or violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

(c) If the parties named in the first sentence of (2) above determine that there are extenuating circumstances, then the student shall be considered eligible for a posthumous degree.

(3) Upon determination that the student is eligible for a posthumous degree, the Dean of Students shall contact the decedent's family to determine whether the family approves of the posthumous degree award.

(3-4) If the conditions in (2) are met, Upon approval from the family, the Dean of Students shall communicate approval to the Registrar, who will shall withdraw the student from all unfinished courses the student was enrolled in at the time of death (if applicable) registered course work, order the appropriate diploma, and arrange for the decedent's listing decedent to be listed in the first available commencement program. If by this point it is no longer possible for the Registrar to execute these tasks in time for the forthcoming commencement, the posthumous degree shall be awarded at the next commencement.

(4-5) The Registrar shall send notice of the posthumous degree award to the President, the CAO/Provost, and the decedent's major department/school/program area and college.

(5-6) The President shall write a letter to the decedent's family announcing the posthumous degree award and the date of the commencement ceremony at which the degree will shall be awarded granted.

Clean copy version below:

Students who die during their academic programs may be awarded posthumous degrees.

- (1) The request to award a posthumous degree may be initiated by the decedent's family, the major department/school/program area, or college, as well as by the Dean of Students.
 - (2) The CAO, in consultation with the Dean of Students, shall determine whether the student had made reasonable progress toward degree completion and did not have a significant disciplinary incident.
 - (3) If the conditions in (2) are met, the Registrar shall withdraw the student from all unfinished courses the student was enrolled in at the time of death (if applicable), order the appropriate diploma, and arrange for the decedent to be listed in the first available commencement program.
 - (4) The Registrar shall send notice of the posthumous degree award to the President, the CAO, and the decedent's major department/school/program area and college.
 - (5) The President shall write a letter to the decedent's family announcing the posthumous degree and the date of the commencement ceremony at which the degree shall be awarded.
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