

A Resolution Recognizing and Thanking the University for Waiving Graduate Assistant Fees and Differential Tuition at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Sponsors: George T. Fields, Leighton Chappell Co-Sponsors: GSS President Hunter Hammock, GSS Vice-President Mohamed Al Sager

WHEREAS, the Graduate Student Senate is the official legislative body and voice of all graduate and professional students at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, graduate and professional students pay <u>fees</u> in addition to their <u>tuition</u> to attend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, for academic year 2021-22 a full-time student would be responsible for paying approximately \$1,000 per semester in mandatory <u>fees</u>; and

WHEREAS, for the fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters, some colleges require another fee known as '<u>differential tuition</u>'; and

WHEREAS, for the fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters, the differential tuition fee for courses like <u>Engineering</u>, <u>Business</u>, and <u>Architecture and Design</u>, was \$65, \$101, and \$111 per-credit-hour, respectively; and

WHEREAS, reducing the <u>cost of attending</u> the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, like student fees and tuition, has been the focus of multiple leaders in Graduate Student Senate, for many years; and

WHEREAS, making graduate education accessible has been, and continues to be, the goal of the Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Thompson; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the Faculty Senate passed a '<u>Resolution on Graduate Student Fees</u>' which advocates for graduate assistants' fees to be covered by the university; and

WHEREAS, on May 2, 2022 at Faculty Senate, on behalf of the Chancellor, Provost Zomchick announced that starting in fall 2022, <u>all mandatory fees and differential tuition for graduate</u> <u>assistants will be covered by the university</u>; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UT Graduate Student Senate commends Chancellor Plowman, Provost Zomchick, Dean Thompson, and all faculty and staff who contributed to this decision being made; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UT Graduate Student Senate thanks the advocacy efforts of the UT Faculty Senate and its leadership; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UT Graduate Student Senate will continue to advocate for the removal of financial barriers to education, for all graduate and professional students; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Life, the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School, the President of the Student Government Association, and the President of the Faculty Senate.

Adopted by the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, on the tenth of May in the year two thousand and twenty-two.

<u>ill</u> Géorge T. Fields

Senate Chair

The Graduate Student Senate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, President, does hereby $[\chi]$ approve / [] refuse to approve this resolution.

Hunter A. Hammock President

5-10-22

Date