University Policy AC-23.01-05/14

Policy Title: Awarding of Posthumous Graduate Degree

Originator: Dr. R. Podemski, Dean

Responsible Office: Graduate School

Reason for Policy/Purpose:
To state the minimum University requirements for awarding a posthumous graduate degree at The University of West Florida (UWF).

Who Does this Govern and Who Needs to Know this Policy?
Graduate department faculty and administrative personnel authorized to approve posthumous graduate degrees.

Policy Statement:
To be considered for a posthumous degree, graduate students shall have successfully completed at least eighty percent of the chosen UWF degree program, have been in good standing at UWF, and have met UWF degree residency requirements. In exceptional circumstances the Dean of the Graduate School may make exceptions to these requirements.

Procedures:
The chairperson of the department, on their own initiative or upon request of the family, requests the awarding of a posthumous graduate degree by forwarding a recommendation letter that includes a rationale for awarding the posthumous degree and is accompanied by the student's transcripts to the Dean of the appropriate college.

The college Dean's recommendation, along with supporting documentation, is forwarded to the Dean of the Graduate School who forwards his/her recommendation to the Provost. If agreeing with the recommendation, the Provost notifies the Deans of the appropriate college and the Graduate School, the University Registrar, and the University Marshal that it is appropriate to award the posthumous graduate degree at the next commencement ceremony. A family member may elect to accept the diploma at the commencement ceremony (or designate someone to accept it) as well as receive the student's official diploma.
Authority and Related Documents:

University Policy BOT-01.01-06/03, Honorary Awards and Recognitions.

APPROVED: Dr. Judith A. Bense, President  Date: 5/19/14

History: Adopted May 2014.