



Memorandum

To: Faculty Senate
Seton Hall University

From: Katia Passerini, Ph.D.
Katia Passerini
Provost and Executive Vice President

Re: Resolution on Graduate Assistantships
2021-FS-18

Date: June 23, 2021

We are in receipt of *2021-FS-18 Resolution of Graduate Assistantships*, approved by the Faculty Senate at their May 7, 2021 meeting.

I appreciate your suggestion of how we might use graduate assistantships strategically to both support incoming freshman and to attract qualified graduate students for Fall 2021. I support in principle your stated goals, and I will work with the CFO to evaluate these requests based on the needs as reported and prioritized by the deans for each school and college in their annual Graduate Assistantship requests--this is a formal request that deans ordinarily submit—and prioritize—based on input by the chairs as part of the budgeting process. Notably there is a University budget deadline by which all requests for Graduate Assistantships are due, and we will address this most easily when budgets have taken into account these possibilities in advance. But in view of the larger class, I encourage each dean to submit these requests as soon as possible. As you conceive of your proposals, you may also benefit from speaking to the Associate Provost for Academic and Graduate Affairs to better understand specific goals which exist in graduate admissions. Because this need has not already been considered in the University budget for the next fiscal year, we will need to prioritize appropriate requests to present to the CFO.

As to your third point, RCM always attributed the stipend associated with a graduate assistantship to the unit that benefited from the work performed by the graduate assistant. Beginning this year, we updated the formula for RCM such that the tuition credit associated with a graduate assistantship is now also charged to the unit that benefits from the work performed by the graduate assistant. I trust this change addresses the concern you have raised. As you know through the APSA process, some of our graduate programs that provide intensive teaching opportunities for our graduate students as part of their professional development have been and will be supported by the University because of our commitment to our students.

Thank you for bringing these concerns to our attention.