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Subject: Doctoral Hours and the 99 Hour Rule

Dear Colleagues

I am pleased to announce that the following form of the "99 hour rule" has been adopted at UT Dallas. (The Office of Graduate Studies will monitor compliance with the regulation.)

A student will be subject to the payment of nonresident tuition under the "99 hour rule" beginning in the first long semester when both the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) The student has previously been enrolled in the Graduate Studies for at least 14 long semesters, and**
- (2) The student has accumulated over 99 doctoral hours.**

For this reason, no new student can be affected by the 99 hour rule until 7 years from the date of entrance into graduate studies.

This version of the 99 hour rule is identical to, and is derived from, that used at UT and is reproduced below for your perusal.

Doctoral Hours and the 99 Hour Rule (at UT)

Doctoral hours are hours earned in doctoral-level course work; doctoral-level course work is any course work (except undergraduate courses or courses such as thesis and report courses that are specifically designated as master's-level courses) taken by a student in Class 6. More information is available at the Office of Graduate Studies (512) 471-45121 or at <http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/99in99.html> .

In 1993, the Texas Legislature voted to limit the number of doctoral hours eligible for State formula funding purposes to 130 hours. In 1997 the number of doctoral hours allowed for formula funding was amended by the Legislature to 99. Doctoral students may still acquire more than 99 doctoral hours, but the institution will receive no State formula funding for such hours over 99. In addition, the law enabled institutions to charge nonresident tuition for doctoral hours over 99 irrespective of student residency status or any work appointment, competitive award, or other circumstance that would normally entitle them to pay resident tuition rates.

In November 1998, the University of Texas Board of Regents approved UT Austin's request to apply the "99 hour rule" only to students entering graduate school in fall 1999 (when a new catalog came into effect) or later. For that reason, the rule does not affect students who enrolled before fall 1999—they will never be subject to nonresident tuition just as a result of earning more than 99 doctoral hours.

For students entering the Graduate School in fall 1999 or later, the following form of the "99 hour rule" has been adopted by the Office of Graduate Studies:

A student will be subject to the payment of nonresident tuition under the "99 hour rule" beginning in the first long semester when both the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The student has previously been enrolled in the Graduate Studies for at least 14 long semesters, and

(2) The student has accumulated over 99 doctoral hours.

For this reason, no new student can be affected by the 99 hour rule until 7 years from the date of entrance into graduate studies.

I will prepare an official announcement after you have had a chance to review and invite your input and comments accordingly.

Thank you.