REPORT OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING  
May 10, 2001

The Graduate Council unanimously approved a change in the leave of absence statement in the graduate catalog as stated below.

**Leave of Absence**

**Approve with changes**

Proposal to a change in the leave of absence statement in the graduate catalog.

Under usual circumstances, a student who is subject to the continuous registration requirement may petition for a leave of absence. The entire student advisory committee and head of the department must approve the petition and send it to the Office of Graduate Studies. If the Dean of Graduate Studies approves the petition and it is approved, the registration requirement will be set aside during the period of leave. Leaves will be granted only under conditions that require the suspension of all activities associated with pursuing the degree. The time period for the completion of the degree will stop with the leave and begin when the student returns to the program with the thesis, dissertation, or record of study. The time granted for a leave of absence does not lengthen the maximum period of time the student has to complete degree requirements. Students should refer to the sections on Time Limits for master's and doctoral programs.

A leave of absence is granted for one-year. In cases as a result of extenuating circumstance, the leave of absence can be extended by after a review by the student's committee and the Dean of Graduate Studies. Students who return to the university after an approved leave of absence who have not attended Texas A&M for a period of over twelve months must submit an application for readmission to the Office of Graduate Admission.

Students who have not filed degree plans or who have not completed the formal course work on the degree plan need not petition for a leave of absence through the Office of Graduate Studies. They should inform their advisors and departments of their plans and should be cognizant to time limits for their degree programs and of readmission requirements for absences of more than twelve months.