May 2, 2013

Dr. John Stallone
Speaker
Faculty Senate
Texas A&M University
1225 TAMU

RE: Posthumous Degree for Kirsten Allison Salerno (UIN: 120-xx-0661)

Dear Dr. Stallone:

Attached is a request from Dr. Charles R. Ridley, committee chair, the Department of Educational Psychology, and the College of Education and Human Development requesting a posthumous Doctor of Philosophy degree to be granted to Kirsten Allison Salerno.

This request is made within the guidelines of University Rule 11.08.99.M1, Award of Posthumous Degrees, and Student Rule 14, Degree Requirements (14.18 Posthumous Graduate Degrees). I have checked Ms. Salerno’s record and certify that she had an approved proposal on file with the Office of Graduate Studies and had been admitted to candidacy at the time of her death.

Please advise if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Karen L. Butler-Purry, Ph.D., P.E.

Attachments

Pc: Dr. George B. Cunningham
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Dr. Victor Willson
Department Head

Dr. Charles R. Ridley
Committee Chair

Dr. Mark J. Zoran, Chair, Graduate Council
April 23, 2013

Memorandum

TO:        Dr. Karen Butler-Purry
            Associate Provost for Graduate Studies

FROM:      George B. Cunningham
            Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT:   Posthumous Degree for Kirsten Allison Salerno (120000661)

The College of Education fully supports the Department of Educational Psychologys request for Kirsten Allison Salerno to receive a posthumous Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Psychology. Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information.
April 9, 2013

George B. Cunningham
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
College of Education and Human Development
Texas A & M University

Dr. Cunningham:

This letter is to provide support and approval for a Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Psychology degree to be awarded posthumously to Kirsten Allison Salerno (120000661). Kirsten was a student in good standing in the Educational Psychology department. She was currently in the process of being matched for her pre-doctoral internship. Additionally, she had made significant progress on her dissertation and she was expected to graduate in August 2014 at the conclusion of her internship. The loss of Kirsten was felt very deeply in our department. She was well loved in both her program and across the department. She had so much potential in her life and her untimely passing is nothing short of a tragedy. At this time, the department, in conjunction with Kirsten’s committee, requests the awarding of a posthumous degree. There is no doubt that Kirsten would have completed this degree in a timely fashion and that the posthumous degree is richly deserved.

Sincerely,

Victor Willson, Ph.D.
Professor and Head
Department of Educational Psychology

794 Harrington Tower
Mailstop 4225
College Station, TX 77843-4225
Tel. 979.845.1831 Fax 979.862.1256
http://epsy.tamu.edu/
April 9, 2013

George B. Cunningham
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
College of Education and Human Development
Texas A & M University

Dr. Cunningham:

This letter is to request the posthumous conferring of the Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology on Kirsten Salerno (120000661). This letter is to certify that under normal circumstances Kirsten would have completed all requirements for the degree by the anticipated graduation date of August 2014. Kirsten was an outstanding student in the counseling psychology doctoral program. She was beloved by the faculty and students. Her dissertation was in progress, and she was preparing to go on her pre-doctoral internship. It is befitting that she should be so honored.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Ridley, Ph.D.
Professor
Committee Chair

Member: Dan Brossart, Ph.D.
Member: Timothy Elliott, Ph.D.
Member: Yvonna Lincoln, Ph.D.
Member: Mary Shaw, Ph.D.
April 9, 2013

George B. Cunningham
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
College of Education and Human Development
Texas A & M University

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Charles R. Ridley,
Professor
Committee Chair

Member: Dan Brossart, Ph.D.

Member: Timothy Elliott, Ph.D.

Member: Yvonna Lincoln, Ph.D.

Member: Mary Shaw, Ph.D.
UNIVERSITY RULE

11.08.99.M1 Award of Posthumous Degrees

Approved March 23, 2000
Supplements System Regulation 11.08

1. GENERAL

Texas A&M University has a long standing tradition of awarding posthumous degrees that recognizes the loss to the University, family, and friends when a student is deceased while enrolled at the University. The award of a posthumous degree may be an appropriate recognition of a student’s academic achievement when that student’s progress would have likely fulfilled the requirements of a degree except for the occurrence of death.

2. POSTHUMOUS BACHELOR’S DEGREES

If at the time of death, a candidate for a bachelor’s degree is enrolled in courses that would complete the degree requirements, the appropriate degree may be awarded posthumously on the recommendation of the student’s academic department, on the approval of the student’s college, the Faculty Senate and the President of the University. Exceptional cases will be referred to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for review and recommendation to the President.

3. POSTHUMOUS GRADUATE DEGREES

3.1 Any request for a posthumous degree award for a candidate for a graduate degree must be initiated by the chair of the student’s advisory committee and contain a positive recommendation from the student’s academic department. The Student’s advisory committee must certify that it believes that all requirements for the degree would have been completed by the anticipated graduation date under normal circumstances. The award request must be approved by the student’s college, the Faculty Senate, and the President.

3.2 For graduate degrees requiring a research product (dissertation, record of study, thesis, or research paper) the research proposal, at the time of the student’s death, must have been signed by each committee member and a significant portion of the dissertation, record of study, thesis or research paper must have been reviewed by the committee and found to be acceptable. Ph.D. students must have been admitted to candidacy.

3.3 For graduate degrees not requiring a research product, the student must have been enrolled in courses at the time of death that would have completed the degree requirements. Exceptional cases will be referred to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for review and recommendation to the President.

OFFICE OF RESPONSIBILITY: Dean of Faculties
14.17 Posthumous Bachelor’s Degrees. If a candidate for a bachelor’s degree, at the time of death, is enrolled in courses that would complete the degree requirements, the appropriate degree may be awarded posthumously on the recommendation of the student’s academic department, on the approval of the student’s college, by the Faculty Senate and by the president of the university. Exceptional cases will be referred to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for review and recommendation to the president.

14.18 Posthumous Graduate Degrees. Any request for a posthumous degree must be initiated by the chair of the student’s advisory committee and may be awarded on the recommendation of the student’s academic department, on the approval of the student’s college, by the Faculty Senate and by the president of the university. For all degrees, the student’s advisory committee must certify that it believes that all requirements for the degree would have been completed by the anticipated graduation date under normal circumstances.

14.18.1 For degrees requiring a research product (dissertation, record of study, thesis or research paper) the research proposal, at the time of the student’s death, must have been signed by each committee member and a significant portion of the dissertation, record of study, thesis or research paper must have been reviewed by the committee and found to be acceptable. Ph.D. students must have been admitted to candidacy.

14.18.2 For degrees not requiring a research product, the student must have been, at the time of death, enrolled in courses that would have completed the degree requirements. Exceptional cases will be referred to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for review and recommendation to the president.

14.19 Petitions requesting exemption from or substitution for courses outlined in undergraduate student degree plans shall be submitted in writing to the Dean or designee of the student’s college through the departmental advisor on forms available in the offices of the Dean or designees and department heads.

14.20 A minimum of 36 hours of 300-and/or 400-level course work must be successfully completed in residence at Texas A&M University to obtain a baccalaureate degree. In all cases, a minimum of 12 of these 36 semester hours must be in the major.

A student participating in TAMU off-campus study programs approved by the student’s college may apply upper division credits earned in the programs toward the residence requirement up to a maximum of 18 semester hours, including hours transferred from another institution as part of one of these programs. These TAMU off-campus study programs may involve domestic or international institutions and may be taught by TAMU faculty or faculty from other institutions. Students choosing to participate in such programs and wishing to apply credits earned from the programs toward the residence requirement must receive college approval prior to the student’s participation in the off-campus study program. Student participating in international programs must contact the Study Abroad Programs Office for details on how to obtain approval for courses taken outside the United States. Students participating in domestic off-campus programs must contact the Dean or designee’s office of their college for approval procedures.

14.21 As an exception to 14.5, a student may qualify for the bachelor of science degree in zoology from Texas A&M by completing the three-year pre-medical/pre-dental curriculum and at least one full year of acceptable work at an accredited American medical or dental school.