GRADUATE COLLEGE HANDBOOK
UPDATES FOR 2014-15
END USE OF OLD COURSEWORK POLICY

This phrase has been added to the handbook in place of this policy “When supporting petitions for extensions of time to degree, it is the program’s responsibility to determine whether old course work is still relevant to the current degree.”

Handbook sections: Transfer Credit, Time Limits for degrees
REVISE POLICY FOR CHANGING ACADEMIC STANDING

The GPA component of academic status is calculated at a predetermined date at the end of each semester. Even though grades may be changed in the official record after this date, the academic standing for that term is NOT changed.

Handbook section: Grade Point Average (GPA) Computation
Applicants must have earned at least a comparable bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college in the United States or a comparable degree from a recognized institution of higher learning abroad.
MASTER’S ADVISOR POLICY

OLD-
The Graduate College requires that a master's candidate depositing a thesis have an adviser who is a member of the Graduate Faculty.

NEW-
The Graduate College requires that master's theses be approved by a member of the Graduate Faculty.

Handbook section: Master’s degree requirements, under Completion of Theses
CHANGE TO UNANIMOUS DECISIONS FOR DOCTORAL FINAL EXAMINATIONS

OLD-
Decisions of the committee for final examinations must be unanimous and are recorded on the Final Exam Result form.

NEW-
The candidate fails the Final Exam if a Director of Research votes Fail or if two or more committee members vote Fail.

Handbook sections: Doctoral Final Examinations
CHANGE TO UNANIMOUS DECISIONS FOR DOCTORAL FINAL EXAMINATIONS-2

Because of that change, the TDA and PER/FER forms will be revised. The new policies for signatures are:

• PER/FER - All voting members of the committee must sign the Final Exam Result form and must indicate the vote of Pass or Fail.

• TDA - In cases in which the student passed with one dissenting fail vote on the Final Examination Result form (FER), the dissenting member may, but is not required to, sign the TDA.

Handbook sections: Doctoral Final Examinations
Students receiving courtesy waivers are not required by the Graduate College to be enrolled full-time in the terms in which they receive a courtesy waiver beginning in fall 2014.

Handbook sections: Registration for Fellows and Trainees and Course Loads
EXIT SURVEY REQUIREMENT FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS-1

OLD –
All doctoral students are required to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates at the time of final deposit.

NEW –
Doctoral students at Illinois complete two exit surveys.

Handbook sections: SED Survey/Doctoral Exit Surveys
EXIT SURVEY REQUIREMENT FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS-2

The Doctoral Exit Survey allows Illinois to compare students’ experiences in its doctoral programs with those of students from peer institutions. Data from this survey are utilized for the Assessment of the Illinois Doctoral Experience (AIDE), which helps improve doctoral programs on our campus. De-identified data from this survey are forwarded to the Association of American Universities (AAU) Data Exchange. Data compiled by AAU from member institutions facilitates the sharing of information nationally and provides a data pool that is used to shape graduate education at the national level.

Handbook sections: SED Survey/Doctoral Exit Surveys
Thank you for coming!