



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

The Graduate School

September 16, 2004

TO: Academic Deans

FROM: Satish K. Tripathi *Satish K. Tripathi*
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Interim Dean of Graduate Studies

SUBJECT: Change in Tuition Scholarship Policy Waiver Procedures

As you know, the annual allocation of Graduate Tuition Scholarship funds we receive from SUNY is inadequate to fully address all of the tuition costs of our supported graduate students. Hence, there are institutional policies and principles in place that define our priorities and that describe the post-baccalaureate students who are eligible to receive graduate tuition scholarships as well as the limits of such tuition scholarships.

Our ability to provide tuition scholarships to all eligible supported graduate students has been aided by UB's recently introduced requirement that Principal Investigators budget the cost of their RAs' tuition into their sponsored projects. However, the combination of grant-generated tuition support and our Graduate Tuition Scholarship allocation still remains short of our total needs. Hence, for the foreseeable future we will continue in place our existing policies and principles for the award of tuition scholarships.

Change in Waiver Procedures

For many years, the Graduate School has been charged by the Provost with the delegated responsibility of receiving and acting on individual waivers of our tuition scholarship policies that are requested by Academic Deans or senior officers of administrative units (Vice Presidents and Vice Provosts) that employ graduate students in their areas. To improve the efficiency of processing such individual waiver requests, the Graduate School has recommended that authority for acting on certain specific categories of waiver requests that emerge from within the College/Schools (only) be delegated to the Academic Deans. That focused recommendation has been endorsed by the Graduate School Executive Committee.

Consequently, I am pleased to announce that I have accepted that recommendation and am delegating that focused authority to the Academic Deans effective immediately.

Note that that delegated authority extends only to waivers of the existing "time and credit hour" limits established by our current policies. Such waiver requests constitute the vast majority of all waiver requests that are received annually. Review and formal action regarding requests for waivers of any other element(s) of our policies and principles will remain the responsibility of the Graduate School. All requests for waivers of our tuition scholarship policies that emerge from administrative units will continue to be reviewed by the Graduate School and should be forwarded there consistent with current practice.

If you have any questions regarding these revised procedures or the waiver authority herein delegated to the Academic Deans (only), please contact Mick Thompson by phone at 645-6227 or by e-mail at mick@buffalo.edu.

Cc: Vice Presidents
Vice Provosts
Dr. Myron A. Thompson
Mr. Sean P. Sullivan
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