



MEMORANDUM

To: The Faculty Senate, Central Connecticut State University

VIA: Dr. David Dauwalder, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs *DD Dauwalder*

VIA: Dr. Christina Robinson, Dean of The School of Graduate Studies *CR Robinson*
Christina Robinson (Sep 26, 2020 11:00 EDT)

VIA: Dr. Joseph Farhat, Dean of the School of Business *JF Farhat* Approve

From: William J. Davis, Associate Director of Graduate Programs *WJ Davis*

Date: September 16, 2020

Subj: Heatherly Whelahan Carlson - MBA posthumously

The School of Business Department Chairs and the SoB Graduate Programs are recommending the awarding of the Master of Business Administration to Heatherly Whelahan Carlson (30399339). At the time of her death on September 7, 2020, Ms. Carlson was enrolled in 2 graduate courses, having completed 24 graduate credits (80%) of the MBA program with a cumulative GPA of 3.88. She would have taken her capstone requirement during the spring 2021 semester to complete her degree.

Ms. Carlson was a published researcher pursuing her second Master degree on a part-time basis while working full time and raising two children. While she is eligible for a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment having completed 80% of the program, we enthusiastically recommend awarding the degree of Master of Business Administration. Her academic and professional accomplishments prior to enrolling at CCSU, her high level of academic performance during her studies here, and her unanticipated death, support this award.

Central Connecticut State University
UNIVERSITY SENATE ACTION

Senate Motion Number FS 17.18.028B

TO: President Zulma Toro

FROM: President of the University Senate

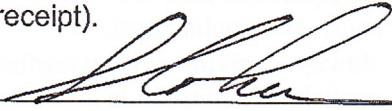
1. The attached motion of the University Senate, dealing with: **Posthumous Degree Policy Proposal** is presented to you for your consideration.
2. This motion was adopted by the University Senate on **04/30/2018**.
3. After considering this motion, please indicate your action on this form, and return it together with the original copy to the President of the University Senate.
4. Under the By-Laws of the University Senate, Section 3.7, the following schedule of action is to be observed.

a) By **05/14/2018**, Senate action reported to the President of the University. (Within five school days of the session in which they are adopted).

b) By **05/29/2018**, the President of the University to return the motion to the President of the Senate. (Within ten school days of its receipt).

05/14/2018

Date



Stephen Cohen, President, University Senate

ENDORSEMENT:

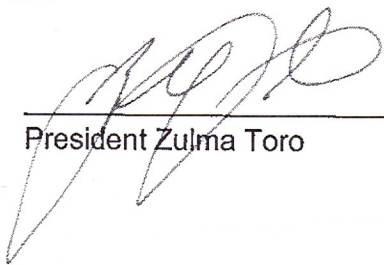
TO: President of the University Senate

FROM: President Zulma Toro

1. Motion Approved : ✓
2. Motion Disapproved: _____ (Explanatory statement must be appended).
3. Action "is deferred": _____
4. Resolution Noted: _____
5. Other: _____

5/17/2018

Date



President Zulma Toro

Proposal for a Posthumous Degree Policy At CCSU

Whereas the granting of academic recognition to students who pass away before earning their degree is common practice at universities nationwide, and

Whereas CCSU has no policy to guide the granting of such recognition,

Be it resolved that CCSU adopts the following policy on the granting of posthumous academic recognition.

Posthumous Degree Policy

- Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at the time of their death in the courses or other credit-bearing activities that would allow them to complete their degree are eligible for the posthumous awarding of the degree appropriate to their course of study.
- Undergraduates who do not meet the standard above but have senior standing are eligible for the awarding of a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment.
- Graduate students who do not meet the standard above but have completed 75% of the credits required to earn their degree are eligible for the awarding of a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment.
- Any student receiving either a posthumous degree or a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment must be in good academic standing at the time of their death.
- The granting of either a posthumous degree or a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment is initiated by the recommendation of the department in which the grantee is a student.
- The department's recommendation must be approved by the dean of the school in which the department is housed and, in the case of graduate students, by the Dean of Graduate Studies as well. The Provost must then approve the dean's recommendation.
- If the Provost approves the granting of a posthumous degree or Certificate of Academic Accomplishment, the decision must be approved by the Faculty Senate, which has authority over the granting of all degrees.
- Departments with deceased students who do not meet the above criteria for unusual or unanticipated reasons may recommend to the appropriate dean the granting of a posthumous degree or a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment, accompanying their recommendation with an explanation of the relevant circumstances.
- The family of the deceased student shall be offered the choice of receiving the diploma or certificate at the first commencement ceremony following the student's death, or in a private meeting with the President of the university or her/his designee.