




MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Kimberly Kostelis,
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

FROM: Dr. Robert Wolff, 
Dean, Carol A. Ammon College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

DATE: April 11, 2024

SUBJECT: Posthumous Degree Recommendation for Graham Rode

The Department of Geography, Anthropology, and Tourism has recommended that Central Connecticut State University award Graham Rode a posthumous Master of Science degree. On behalf of the department, Dr. Brian Sommers forwarded the following statement.

Graham Rode passed away on March 26th, 2024. At the time, he was working on the capstone for his Master of Science degree in Geography. In 2021, he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science with a minor in History from Central. He was completing his MS in Geography-Sustainability program with a specialization in environmental planning in the Department of Geography, Anthropology, and Tourism. He had been inducted into the honorary societies in History (Phi Alpha Theta) and in Geography (Gamma Theta Upsilon). Graham was active in community outreach in and around his hometown of Newington. He had also served as an intern for U.S. Congressman John Larson at his Hartford office.

Graham was a fantastic student and a real joy to have in class. He had a tremendous passion for learning. He was always ready to challenge the material and to dig into the deepest of discussions. The best students are those who teach their teachers. And Graham taught us a lot.

In recognition of his work and his impact on our department, we request that Graham Rode be awarded a posthumous Master of Science degree in Geography.

I am honored to support this recommendation and ask that it be presented to the Faculty Senate. Please let me know if any additional information is required.


cc: Brian Sommers



MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 12, 2024

TO: Fred Latour, President of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. Kimberly T. Kostelis 

Provost and Vice President Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Award M.S. in Geography to Graham Rode

I recommend that Mr. Graham Rode be awarded a Master of Science degree in Geography posthumously at or before CCSU's Spring 2024 Commencement.

Mr. Rode passed away on March 26, 2024, while completing his capstone this semester for his degree in Geography-Sustainability with a specialization in environmental planning. The recommendation of the Department of Geography, Anthropology, and Tourism and Dean Robert Wolff is attached to this request.