



TO: SUNY University Faculty Senate
FROM: Graduate Academic Programs & Research Committee
RE: Resolution: Graduate Education Standards Workgroup
DATE: October 24-26, 2024
LOCATION: SUNY Plattsburgh, NY
RESOLUTION #
VOTE: For: XX / Against: XX

RATIONALE:

[W1] WHEREAS Governor Hochul in her [2023 State of the State address](#) outlined goals to ensure a world-class student experience and to double sponsored research, startups, and patents across SUNY; and her [2024 State of the State address](#) states that she “will launch an array of initiatives to continue building on the success of SUNY ... and ensure that *all* New York’s students can reach their fullest potential”; and

[W2] WHEREAS the New York State of Education Department defines [graduate academic programs standards](#), and in particular that faculty members teaching graduate courses need to be externally recognized experts in the subject-matters they are teaching; and

[W3] WHEREAS SUNY is expanding efforts to function more like a unified system so that the value of SUNY graduate education may be the same across the System, as exemplified by Chancellor King in his 2023 [State of the University address](#), who shared his vision that “SUNY is a community unrestricted by the bounds of campuses, classrooms, or even state lines, creating and cultivating immense positive impact on our state, our nation, and the world”; and

[W4] WHEREAS faculty members’ tenure and promotion are linked to their scholarly productivity on all SUNY campuses and faculty members at the graduate level are expected to prioritize remaining current in the research and scholarship in the subject matters they are teaching and in which they are experts; and

[W5] WHEREAS external accreditation standards at the graduate level generally require on-going faculty professional development and scholarship in the subject matters they are teaching.

RESOLUTION:

[R1] THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Faculty Senate requests that the President of the University Faculty Senate collaborate with the Provost and the UFS Graduate Academic Programs and Research Committee to create a SUNY-wide workgroup charged with compiling and sharing best practices for graduate education across the SUNY System, as well as sharing research and scholarly professional development opportunities to put SUNY at the top of graduate education in the country.

