SENATE RESOLUTION F17-02
SENATE MEETING November 27, 2017

TITLE: Allowing the Display of Hoods for Master’s Students during Commencement

WHEREAS: Graduating master’s students at Iowa State University are not permitted to wear hoods as part of their academic regalia during commencement, and

WHEREAS: Master’s students at the two other Regents Universities and other peer institutions are permitted to wear hoods indicating their degree status, and

WHEREAS: Hooding ceremonies are carried out by institutions of higher education to recognize students who have earned an advanced degree beyond the bachelor’s degree. For many, hoods symbolize the culmination of graduate studies and the transition from student to colleague, and

WHEREAS: The symbolic importance of academic regalia plays a vital part in the commencement experience for many students and their families, especially those from underrepresented groups (e.g., first generation, low income, and students of color), be it therefore

RESOLVED: That Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) recognizes the value in celebrating the academic accomplishments of all its students and supports the adoption of a policy that allows recipients of master’s degrees from Iowa State University to wear hoods as part of their academic regalia beginning in Spring 2018, and

RESOLVED: That this resolution be sent to President-Select Wendy Wintersteen, Senior Vice President and Provost Jonathan Wickert, Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate College William Graves, the Graduate Council, President of the Faculty Senate Tim Day, the Faculty Senate Academic Standards and Admissions Committee, Office of the Registrar, and Student Government.

Sponsors:
L. Wesley Harris, Jr. Carmen Jones Nadia Jamarillo Cherrez
Kim Heim Bridget Perry Ardhendu Tripathy

Vivek J. Lawana, President George Weston, Chair of the Senate