Resolution For Ensuring Full Representation in the proposed Graduate College Council

May 16, 2019

WHEREAS a Graduate College has been established to provide leadership to the various graduate programs being conducted at the University of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, the President of the University of Delaware has proposed increasing the number of faculty by 500 over the next five years and doubling the number of graduate students; and

WHEREAS the Bylaws of the Graduate College call for the creation of a Graduate College Council as the deliberative and representative body of the College; and

WHEREAS the Bylaws of the Graduate College define all full-time faculty members of the University to be simultaneously members of the faculty of the Graduate College; and

WHEREAS the Bylaws of the Graduate College further provide that Graduate Council members shall be “nominated and elected as the representatives of graduate programs within the academic colleges,” and that they “must be active in some aspect of graduate education;” and

WHEREAS the number of Graduate Council seats allocated for election to the Council is substantially smaller than the number of departments with graduate programs or faculty teaching graduate classes at the University of Delaware; and

WHEREAS the number of Graduate Council seats specifically allocated for election by the College of Arts and Sciences is substantially smaller than the number of departments with graduate programs or faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS the number of departments with graduate programs has historically been limited by underfunding, the University of Delaware’s chronic struggles with diversity and inclusion, and limited opportunities for graduate students from underrepresented populations; and

WHEREAS there are multiple departments at the University of Delaware desiring to participate in graduate programs afforded by the new Graduate College:

WHEREAS the Graduate College is meant to serve as a site for generating interdisciplinary graduate programs, many of which may emerge from programs without large existing graduate programs; and

WHEREAS the proposed growth in graduate education, including the development and funding of programs, the policies and procedures of the Graduate College, and increases in faculty and student numbers demonstrating diversity and inclusion should be guided by a fully representative Council; and

WHEREAS, ensuring full representation of the faculty and students at the University of Delaware engaged is paramount in achieving the quality, rigor, and full functionality of the Graduate College: therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the CAS Faculty Senate calls for an expansion of the Council to a minimum of 50 Councillors, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the number of Councillors be subject to biannual revision, so that every department at the University of Delaware with a graduate program or faculty active in graduate education may be fully represented on the Graduate Council.