

**Kansas State University Faculty Senate Resolution on  
Dependent/Spouse Tuition Assistance Task Force Report  
Approved by Faculty Senate on May 11, 2010**

**WHEREAS**, President Schulz directed Interim Provost Dyer and Faculty Senate President LeHew to convene the Dependent/Spouse Tuition Assistance Task Force in September of 2009 to study our current policies and suggest changes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dependent/Spouse Tuition Assistance Task Force met regularly, secured relevant data, discussed the strengths and limitations of our current policy, and made clear and compelling recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Faculty Affairs Committee of Faculty Senate has reviewed the report of the Dependent/Spouse Tuition Assistance Task Force; and

**WHEREAS**, Faculty salaries at Kansas State University have been the lowest among Big 12 Schools for 19 consecutive years, and faculty salaries rank in the lowest tier among peer institutions nationally; and

**WHEREAS**, many similar universities offer a more generous dependent tuition benefit; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of living in Manhattan, KS is one of the highest among Big 12 communities; and

**WHEREAS**, partial waiver of tuition for dependents represents an important benefit;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** spouses and dependents that are undergraduates enrolled as full-time students should receive assistance equivalent to the resident on-campus tuition for 7 credit hours of courses; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** spouses and dependents must be enrolled in a degree-seeking program to receive this benefit, and dependents must be full-time students to be eligible for the benefit, but may be part-time students to receive the graduate benefit; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** spouses may be enrolled either as part-time or full-time students in undergraduate or graduate programs to receive the benefit; however, spouses enrolled as part-time students will receive a maximum of three credit hours; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** all students who receive this assistance must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress as defined by their respective programs of study; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the dependent/spouse tuition assistance applies equally to all on-campus, distance, graduate, and DVM courses; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** an individual student may benefit from the maximum credit hours contained in the task force report regardless of the number of guardians who may be eligible to provide the benefit.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the tuition assistance through the program would be provided in addition to other forms of financial aid up to the total cost of attendance.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The Faculty Senate strongly encourages the KSU administration to endorse and implement the recommendations of the Dependent/Spouse Tuition Assistance Task Force.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** The Faculty Senate urges additional measures to further strengthen the tuition assistance policy, including but not limited to:

Elimination of the stipulation “Funds will be awarded on a first come-first serve basis until budgeted resources are exhausted” in order to make this a true benefit;

Elimination of the current practice that dependents must appear on the employee’s tax returns in order to be considered eligible;

Continued work to craft a policy that does not discriminate based on the employee’s sexual orientation or lifestyle.

This resolution was passed by Faculty Senate on May 11, 2010

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Melody LeHew, Faculty Senate President 2009-2010