

## **R&P 2.10 Graduate Assistants and R&P 2.11 Research and Graduate Project Assistants**

First Reading: March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Below reflects amendments from first reading.

Rationale: The current subsections in R&P on Graduate Assistants and Research and Graduate Project Assistants are out of date and inaccurate in places. For example, we don't have Graduate Project Assistants right now at Lehigh, "Graduate assistants are appointed on recommendation of the chairperson of the department concerned through the dean to the vice president and provost" is not accurate, and it doesn't define Teaching Assistants, which we have many currently at Lehigh.

Furthermore, to more accurately define the terms, we separate them into GRA, GTA and GPA. As we currently call them RAs (new term will be GRAs). It can be confusing as there are also undergraduate RAs.

### **Current R&P 2.10 Graduate Assistants**

Graduate assistants are appointed on recommendation of the chairperson of the department concerned through the dean to the vice president and provost. Graduate assistants are normally expected to devote half-time to the service of the university and half-time to graduate work. Appointment is for one year and tuition fees are remitted. In special cases, graduate students may be employed on one-third time under which arrangement two thirds of the student's time is devoted to graduate work and one-third to service to the University. Tuition fees are not waived for any graduate assistant devoting less than one-half time service to the university.

### **Proposed 2.10 Graduate Assistants (GAs) (First Reading Amendments are in *bold italic*.)**

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Graduate students at Lehigh University may be appointed to three types of academic Graduate Assistantships: Graduate Research Assistants (GRA), Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA), and Graduate Project Assistants (GPA).

Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs) are graduate students who receive a stipend and/or tuition remission for participating in a research program that allows them to meet requirements for the degrees sought or is supported by grants. GRAs must be candidates for graduate degrees who

devote full time to a program of graduate work (which may include teaching, research and other academic activity as well as courses).

Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) are graduate students who receive a stipend and/or tuition remission for assisting in the delivery of courses. The duties of GTA may include, but are not limited to, grading, monitoring, leading lab and/or recitation sessions, and offering office hour assistance to students. The duties are performed under the supervision of faculty. GTAs who are more educationally advanced or experienced may be appointed as senior GTAs to teach classes.

Graduate Project Assistants (GPAs) are graduate students who receive a stipend and may or may not receive tuition remission for providing assistance in administrative, educational, or research projects. A GPA does not teach a class, recitation, or laboratory. The research project ~~should~~ **need** not be part of the GPA's graduate work that fulfills the GPA's graduate degree.

### **Current 2.11 Research and Graduate Project Assistants**

Research assistants are appointed by research project directors, in each case in consultation with the chairperson of the department of the student's curriculum, and upon review by the director of the office of research and the appropriate college dean. Research assistants are candidates for graduate degrees, devoting full time to a program of graduate work (which may include teaching, research, and other academic activity as well as courses), and are appointed to receive compensation for participating in a research program by which they meet requirements for the degrees sought. Compensation consists of a stipend out of which tuition fees must be paid by the research assistant.

Graduate project assistants are appointed by research project directors, in each case in consultation with the chairperson of the department of the student's curriculum, and upon review by the director of the office of research and the vice president for research. Graduate project assistants provide services to research projects for research work that does not fulfill degree requirements.

Joint appointments as teaching assistant, research assistant, and graduate project assistant are permissible, subject to appropriate approvals.

### **Proposed R&P 2.11 Research and Graduate Project Assistants**

Delete R&P 2.11

First Readings by the Senate of changes to R&P 2.10 and 2.11 on March 3, 2023.