

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE**

**Senate Resolution 11/12-06: Doctoral Student Professional  
Meeting Attendance Support Bill (Development II Bill)**

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Bill History: 01/05/12 Rec'd final approval by Faculty Senate, Becomes SR 11/12-06

1 **WHEREAS:** Maintaining high quality in scholarship and advanced graduate student  
2 presence at national research conferences is in the strong interests of the  
3 University, and

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5 **WHEREAS:** The Doctoral students of the University of Alabama in Huntsville often  
6 lack internal financial support to attend research conferences, and

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8 **WHEREAS:** The Doctoral qualifying examination is a form of testimony of a student's  
9 capacity to perform research and thus to be very likely to benefit from  
10 attendance at a research conference;

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12 **WHEREAS:** Some other Universities already have competitively awarded central  
13 funds for conference attendance that supplement unit funds for that  
14 purpose,

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16 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

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18 That the Faculty Senate recommends the establishment of a new central fund, the  
19 Doctoral Student Professional Meeting Attendance Central Fund (henceforth, Student  
20 Meeting Central Fund) dedicated to supporting conference registration fees for doctoral  
21 student conference attendance;

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23 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

24 The Meeting Central Fund be seeded with each new academic year with a balance equal  
25 to 1% of the indirect cost recovery obtained from the Office of the Vice President for

26 Research (or equivalent), without a corresponding change in the existing indirect cost  
27 recovery rates;

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29 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

30 That all reasonable and appropriate costs associated with travel to a professional meeting  
31 or conference be eligible for reimbursement, not to exceed \$1500 per student per year;

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33 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

34 That a committee, chaired by the Dean of Graduate Studies (or his/her designee) and  
35 consisting of one representative from Office of the Vice President for Research (or  
36 equivalent) and one from the Faculty Senate (e.g., Chair of the Faculty and Student  
37 Development Committee), be formed to develop procedures for selecting candidates for  
38 support;

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40 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

41 That this committee provide at least 2 opportunities for support applications per academic  
42 year, once per semester;

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44 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

45 That this policy be implemented beginning with the 2012-2013 Academic Year;

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47 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

48 That the Senate recommends that the program's performance be monitored, with a future  
49 eye toward expansion to other graduate degree programs.