Policy on Revocation of Graduate Degrees

1. The University of Texas at Dallas is committed to assuring that theses and dissertations that were submitted as part of the requirements for already-awarded degrees shall meet the highest standards of academic integrity. The standard of scholarly integrity expected on master’s theses and doctoral dissertations is the same as what would be expected in submissions to a publisher or an academic journal. If a Master’s thesis or doctoral dissertation is found to be based on plagiarized or falsified material after the degree has been awarded, then the degree will be subject to revocation.

This policy, used in conjunction with UTDSP5003, Chapter 49, Subchapter D (Disciplinary Proceedings and Disposition), applies to individuals who have been awarded a master’s or doctoral degree and are no longer enrolled as students. Master’s theses and doctoral dissertations submitted by enrolled students are covered solely by UTDSP5003, Chapter 49, Subchapter D.

In cases in which the University becomes aware of allegations of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism or falsification of data or other research source material in master’s theses or doctoral dissertations after a degree has been awarded and the individual is no longer enrolled as a student, the Dean of Students will consult with the Dean of Graduate Studies in the investigation and disposition of the case.

2. After a master’s or doctoral degree has been awarded and a thesis or dissertation is made available to the public, allegations of plagiarism or falsification of research material may arise from many sources. However such allegations may arise, and however they may come to the attention of UT Dallas employees, the allegations should be referred promptly to the Dean of Students or the Dean of Graduate Studies. The Dean receiving the report will promptly notify the other Dean of the allegations, and they will jointly develop a plan for investigation in accordance with UTDSP5003, Section 49.15 c.

2.1. The investigation may include a review of the thesis or dissertation by faculty in the discipline to render professional judgments as to whether academic dishonesty has occurred.

2.2. Following the completion of the investigation, the matter will proceed in accordance with UTDSP5003, Section 49.15 c (1) – (3), except that a Discipline Committee, if one is appointed, will be comprised of faculty selected after consultation with the Dean of Graduate Studies.

2.3. After a degree has been revoked, a permanent notification will be placed in the former student’s academic transcript, and the thesis or dissertation will be removed from the University of Texas at Dallas Libraries. If the thesis or dissertation has been placed in a public or commercial repository, that repository shall be notified of the University’s action by the Dean of Graduate Studies.