

## **Graduate Council Resolution in Support of Revising the Doctoral GPA Admission Requirements**

*Whereas*, the GPA requirement for remaining in good standing in a doctoral degree program at SIU was previously revised to be a minimum GPA of 3.00.

*Whereas*, there are three paths to admission into a doctoral degree program at SIU:

1. “Normal” (requiring completion of a master's degree or equivalent);
2. Direct Entry (requiring completion of a bachelor's degree only);
3. Accelerated Entry, both for SIU and for Non-SIU Graduate students (requiring completion of at least one semester in a master's program).

*Whereas*, the GPA requirements for admission via all of these paths remains as “at least 3.25.”

*Whereas*, this means that the requirements to enter a doctoral program are more stringent than to remain in it.

*Whereas*, the 3.25 GPA requirements limit the flexibility of doctoral programs to admit applicants that they may feel are qualified.

*Whereas*, grading practices can vary widely among US and especially international institutions of higher education.

*Whereas*, grading scales from international institutions are subject to interpretation when being translated to SIU's grading scale.

*Whereas*, doctoral programs are requesting the Dean of the Graduate School to make GPA admission exceptions, many for students with a GPA between 3.0 and 3.25.

*Whereas*, programs remain free to impose higher GPA standards than the Graduate School minimum requirements.

*Whereas*, programs remain free to select the students to admit from among those that meet their program's and the Graduate School's minimum requirements.

*Therefore*, be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves revising the GPA requirements for admission to doctoral programs at SIU, via *all* admission paths, to be “at least 3.00.”