

## Proposed Addition Regarding Probation & Dismissal in the School of Education Graduate Bulletin

Currently **the SoE Bulletin** states only this about probation and dismissal: *Graduate students whose program GPA falls below the minimum for their program are subject to probation and dismissal.*

However, the **UGS Bulletin** states this under policies for **all Ph.D. programs** (p. 12).

***Maintaining Academic Progress:*** *The policy of the Graduate Faculty is that students may be dismissed for failure to maintain adequate academic progress toward the degree. For candidates, this standard is set by the faculty of each program or by the student's dissertation committee. The student must first be notified of deficient academic progress by being placed on probation for one semester. If the deficiency is not rectified then the student may be dismissed.*

Hence, this proposal suggests that the following text (in red) be added to our bulletin:

*Graduate students whose program GPA falls below the minimum for their program are subject to probation and dismissal. Additionally, doctoral students may be dismissed for failure to maintain adequate academic progress toward the degree. For doctoral candidates, this standard is set by the faculty of each program or by the student's dissertation committee. The student must first be notified of deficient academic progress by being placed on probation for one semester. If the deficiency is not rectified then the student may be dismissed by the School of Education Associate Dean for Graduate Studies.*

### Rationale:

- The UGS Bulletin says that doctoral students may be dismissed for low GPA or lack of adequate progress to their degree. However, our bulletin leaves the impression that probation and dismissal are linked solely to GPA. Occasionally, SoE faculty may feel that probation and dismissal are necessary for reasons other than GPA (e.g., students not meeting key post-coursework milestones after many years in the program.) The current lack of consistency between the SOE and UGS Bulletins could cause confusion if this situation arises. This addition to the SoE Bulletin would make our processes more transparent and consistent with UGS policy.
- Additionally, by specifying that the SoE Associate Dean for Graduate Studies will be the one to issue the dismissal within the SoE, the proposed text: (1) helps clarify the process to be followed, (2) provides consistency in decisions involving dismissal across our various programs and departments, and (3) ensures that necessary records are kept/updated in the Graduate Studies Office.