University of Houston

Inter-Office Memorandum

To: Prof. James Cooper, Chairman
Graduate and Professional Studies Council

From: Peter W. Guenther
Faculty Senate, Educational Policy Committee

Dept.

Subject: Faculty Senate Resolution

Date: November 17, 1980

On April 26, 1980 the Faculty Senate passed the following resolution:
Whereas many classes on the Central Campus are taught by
graduate students, and
Whereas the great majority of those graduate students have
received no formal training in the craft of teaching, and
Whereas undergraduate students complain often, loudly, and
rightfully about this state of affairs, and
Whereas it is our desire to improve the quality of teaching
on the Central Campus, be it therefore
Resolved that, starting with the fall '80 semester, graduate
students engaged in teaching be required to enroll in or have completed an instructional
training program.

This resolution was forwarded to Provost Magner who informed our
committee that it was your Council who would discuss the matter
and institute the procedure to be followed.
Since we have not heard anything regarding this resolution, we
would like to ask you to inform us what your Council has decided
and when this decision was passed on to the Provost.
May I add here a problem which has come to my attention (although
it has not been a point of discussion of this committee nor of the
Faculty Senate): the command of the English language of some of
the graduate students who presently teach has been criticized
quite strongly by some undergraduate students. I am wondering
if you had similar reports and what your Council has done or will
do in order to change this state of affairs.
Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

Peter W. Guenther, Art Dept., 356 FA, #1793

C/c Provost Dr. George Magner
Prof. Martha Piper, Chair, Faculty Senate.