

University of Houston

Inter-Office Memorandum

file



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

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

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 Wagner 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 Wagner

Prof. Martha Piper, Chair, Faculty Senate.