

Bill Number: S-09-02-13 Final Vote: _____

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Dean of Student Life: Dr. Lisa Webb Student Senate Chair: Allison Reyes

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY TO HAND OUT
OFFICIAL DIPLOMAS AT GRADUATION FOR DEDMAN COLLEGE
STUDENTS**

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5 WHEREAS the administration, specifically the office of the
6 Provost, has decided to remove official diplomas
7 from graduation ceremonies due to a change in the
8 University Calendar, resulting in a shorter period of
9 time between final examinations and graduation,
10 and

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12 NOTING this decision greatly and negatively affects the
13 students and faculty of the Dedman College because
14 it has been a long standing tradition of the Dedman
15 College faculty to hold diploma ceremonies in
16 which faculty members from the different
17 departments of Dedman College honor students for
18 their achievements through the handing out of
19 diplomas, and
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21 FURTHER NOTING that Latin honors will only be “loosely” based upon
22 an individual student’s four year record because
23 without diplomas done by graduation, a student’s
24 Latin honors will have to be estimated, at best, and
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26 BARING IN MIND that in a December 5th, 2008 meeting of the
27 Dedman College faculty a motion that official
28 diplomas continue to be available for distribution at
29 May graduation as they have in the past and that
30 Latin honors continue to be based on the students’
31 complete undergraduate record was passed by a
32 majority of ayes, 1 nay, and 1 abstention, and
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34 ACKNOWLEDGING that the reason behind removing official diplomas
35 from graduation ceremonies was due to a change in
36 the University Calendar, however, there still
37 remains four days between the last final exam and
38 graduation, leaving professors four days to submit
39 grades and giving the Registrar’s Office at least two
40 days to post final grades, and
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42 FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the Dedman College faculty has expressed that

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examinations and submitting of grades in order to ensure that diplomas can be ready by graduation, and

that Southern Methodist University has been striving to obtain a high academic accreditation and handing out official diplomas a graduation would aid in this endeavor, as well as, keep a long standing tradition alive, and

REALIZING

that tuition for one semester at Southern Methodist University is 14,750 dollars, plus General Student Fees, and room and board and, therefore, students are more than deserving of diplomas at graduation, be it therefore

RESOLVED

that the administration, specifically the office of the Provost, overturn their decision to not grant official diplomas at graduation for students of the Dedman College and make available official diplomas at graduation for the above reasons.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Kobler
Student Body Vice President