Resolution 19: In Appreciation and Recognition of Dean Barbara Knuth’s Tenure as Dean of the Graduate School

Abstract: This resolution publicly recognizes and thanks Dean Barbara Knuth for her outstanding leadership and dedication to graduate education during her two five-year term as Dean of the Graduate School at Cornell University.

Sponsored by: GPSA Executive Board

Whereas, Dean Barbara Knuth has served two consecutive, five-year terms as Dean of the Graduate School at Cornell University since 2010; and

Whereas, during her tenure as Dean of the Graduate School, Dean Knuth has been a strong advocate and ally for graduate student education; and

Whereas, as Dean of the Graduate School, she has demonstrated an unwavering leadership and has been a steady hand during times of crises, ensuring that the graduate student experience is successful regardless of any hardship or circumstance that arises; and

Whereas, as Dean of the Graduate School, has championed for Graduate student needs’ in conversations with the President, Provost, faculty, and directors of graduate study; and

Whereas, in the words of Provost Kotlikoff, “[Dean Knuth] has been an extraordinary effective leader for the Graduate School, improving accountability for student outcomes and graduate programs, increasing diversity and improving inclusion, and tirelessly advocating on key issues of most concern to graduate education, including immigration reform, financial aid, research support and health care coverage.”

Whereas, in the fall of 2019, she won the Debra W. Stewart Award for Outstanding Leadership in Graduate Education, given by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), an award that highlights her prowess as a strong leader of Graduate Education among 500 institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada; and

Whereas, Dean Knuth has actively nurtured a close relationship with the GPSA and its leaders and was always ready to meet, and address our specific concerns, requests and questions; and

Whereas, Dean Knuth’s second and last term as Dean of the Graduate School, comes to an end in July 2020.

1 https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2019/12/graduate-school-dean-wins-national-leadership-award
Be it therefore resolved, the GPSA publicly recognizes and thanks the hard work and outstanding leadership that Dean Knuth has demonstrated during her tenure as Dean of the Graduate School; and

Be it further resolved, the GPSA appreciates the relationship she cultivated with its graduate student leaders; and

Be it finally resolved, the GPSA appreciates Dean Knuth’s dedication and commitment to graduate student education and being a strong advocate for the graduate students at Cornell University.

Respectfully Submitted,

GPSA Executive Board