



The University of New Mexico

**SENATE GRADUATE &
PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE**
Linney Wix, Chair
lwix@unm.edu

DATE: September 7, 2012

TO: Operations Committee of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Linney Wix, Ph.D., Chair *Linney Wix*
Senate Graduate & Professional Committee

RE: Posthumous Degree

At its September 6, 2012 meeting the Senate Graduate & Professional Committee voted to approve a request to grant a posthumous degree to Robert Hohnke (100034217). Please see the attached memo from Todd Seidler, Professor and Chair, Health, Exercise and Sports Sciences, detailing this request for Mr. Hohnke.

The Senate Graduate & Professional Committee's approval is based primarily on the two conditions specified in the faculty handbook relative to the granting of posthumous degrees. Mr. Hohnke had completed the coursework required for the degree and his academic record is in good standing. Therefore, we request that the Faculty Senate support the awarding of a posthumous Doctor of Philosophy to Robert Hohnke. We also request that this item be put on the Senate's agenda at the earliest convenience. The department of Health, Exercise and Sports Sciences is concerned on behalf of Mr. Hohnke's family that this situation be resolved quickly.

Thank you.

Attachment

August 27, 2012

To: Robben Baca
From: Todd L. Seidler
Re: Posthumous Degree

Dear Robben,

Last December, Robert Hohnke, a doctoral student here in the Department of Health, Exercise and Sports Sciences was killed. Robert, an outstanding student and T.A. from Germany, had completed his coursework, comps and was a week short of his dissertation proposal when his car was struck by a truck on his way to Durango for a day of snowboarding.

(http://www.dailylobo.com/article/2011/12/unm_professor_dies_in_accident_near_farmington)

Widely known across campus as “German Rob”, he was a beloved member of the Department and University. The faculty, staff and students of HESS request that UNM award the Ph.D. to Robert posthumously. Please let me know what I can do to help the process and also if there are any questions.

Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully,



Todd L. Seidler, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Health, Exercise and Sports Sciences