Indiana University - Bloomington
Graduate & Professional Student Government

Resolution to Support a Reduced Cost for Graduate and Professional Graduation Caps and Gowns at Indiana University

Whereas, the average cost of attendance for a graduate student at Indiana University is $30,632 for residents and $51,446 for nonresidents; and

Whereas, the cost of a graduation cap and gown for a graduate student is on average $87.00 and $162.00 if not paid by a certain date; and

Whereas, upon completion of a survey sent to all graduate and professional students via the GPSG Newsletter, approximately 94% of respondents indicated that price was the biggest concern when purchasing their cap and gown; and

Whereas, the average income of a graduate student is incredibly variable; and

Whereas, when contacted, the Indiana University Events Office suggested that the cost was high because of the material used; and

Whereas, students will use and keep their caps and gowns for less than 24 hours before being required to return them; and

Whereas, several other schools do not require students to incur high costs to rent caps and gowns for commencement; and

Whereas, this is a barrier to entry for a student to be able to walk at graduation; and

Whereas, fees should not keep students from attending graduation,

Therefore be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that:

a) GPSG advocates for the University to reassess their current contracts with vendors to find the best available price for renting cap and gowns.

b) GPSG advocates for a gown that is made out of an alternative material to reduce cost given the short duration for which it will be used.

1 https://studentcentral.indiana.edu/pay-for-college/cost-of-iu/estimated-cost.html
2 https://collegegrad.herffjones.com/capgown
3 https://commencement.msu.edu/resources-general-info/cap-gown
4 http://www.wiu.edu/commencement/ordering_info.php
Indiana University - Bloomington
Graduate & Professional Student Government

Kenneth S. Guerra 12/07/2018
GPSG President  Date