The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following resolution at Meeting #188 on February 4, 2013:

RESOLUTION

The UAF Faculty Senate reaffirms its previous motion to require that both theses and projects for Master’s of Arts and Master’s of Science degrees be archived in the Rasmuson Library, and to put this requirement into the UAF Catalog. The Rasmuson Library already archives theses, and is willing to centrally archive projects in a variety of formats.

Motivation and Background:

- A Faculty Senate Motion from Meeting #71 (April 1997) concerning Master’s degree requirements included the stipulation that Projects are archived at the Library, as well as theses, and that project archival is a degree requirement. The entire motion is copied below.

- Subsequent motions concerning master’s degrees (Meeting #88, May 1999; Meeting #123, May 2004) made some credit requirement changes, but did not address the requirement to archive projects.

- The 1999-2000 UAF Catalog (page 43-44) contained the language that projects are archived in the UAF Rasmuson Library for both MA and MS degrees. This language was subsequently dropped from the Catalog in 2000-2001, which was a change that did not involve Faculty Senate approval.

- At the present time, not all Master’s projects are archived in the Rasmuson Library. Some are archived in the Rasmuson Library, some are archived by individual departments, and some are not archived at all.

- It is in the interest of students and their potential employers that all Master’s theses and projects be archived.

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Jennifer P. Reynolds
President, UAF Faculty Senate

The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following at its Meeting #71 on April 14, 1997:

MOTION PASSED (unanimous)

The UAF Faculty Senate moves to approve the minimum requirements for Master’s Degrees shall be as follows:
For all Master’s Degree Programs, the following must be met:
a. Submit a Graduate Study Plan (GSP) and an Appointment of Committee Form to the Graduate School by the end of the second semester in attendance.

b. Be registered for at least 6 credits per year (fall, spring, and summer combined), or have an approved leave of absence form on file.

c. Submit an Advancement to Candidacy form to the Graduate School. Once submitted, this form supplants the GSP and serves to formally establish specific degree requirements.

d. Submit an application for graduation and be registered for at least 3 graduate credits in the semester in which the degree is to be awarded; and

e. Complete all degree requirements within the 7-year time limit allowed.

Furthermore, the following additional requirements are the minimum for Master's Degrees:

**For a Master's of Science or Master's of Arts Degree - with thesis**

Successfully complete at least 30 credits of course work including at least 6 credits of thesis (699). (No more than 12 thesis/research (699/698) credits may be counted towards the minimum degree credits).

At least 24 credits must be at the 600 or above, except for a Master's of Arts in Music, which must have at least 21 credits at the 600 level or above.

Pass a written and/or oral comprehensive exam (may be combined with the thesis defense).

Publicly present and defend thesis.

Submit a completed and signed thesis defense form to the Graduate School.

Archive thesis in UAF Library.

**Master's of Science or Master's of Arts Degree - with project**

Successfully complete at least 30 credits of course work including at least 6 credits of project work (698). (No more than 6 research (698) credits may be counted towards the minimum degree credits.)

At least 24 credits must be at the 600 level or above, except for a Master's of Arts in Music, which must have at least 21 credits at the 600 level or above.

Pass a written and/or oral comprehensive exam (may be combined with the project defense.)

Publicly present and defend project.

Submit a completed and signed project defense form to the Graduate School.

Archive project in UAF Library.
For a Professional Master's Degree (i.e. Master's of Business Administration, Education, etc.)

Successfully complete at least 30 credits of course work (research or thesis credits NOT included). At least 24 credits must be at the 600 level or above (research or thesis credits NOT included).

Successful completion of a comprehensive exam or capstone course that includes demonstration of the ability to synthesize information in the field at a level appropriate for a Master's degree.

Note on Implementation of Motion: It is the understanding of the Graduate Curricular Affairs Committee that changes to existing programs degree requirements or the name of the degree which may be necessitated by this policy, if implemented, will need final approval of the Graduate Curricular Affairs Committee, but does not constitute a new degree offering, and will not need approval by the Board of Regents. No minimum presented herein prohibits programs from requiring additional work. The adjustments that have been made from existing programs include the requirement for the non-thesis project to be documented and in some manner archived in the Library (i.e. slides, recording, report.)

EFFECTIVE: Fall 1998

RATIONALE: Currently there is great disparity in the administration of Master's degrees using a thesis or non-thesis option. In addition, there is an increasing movement towards Professional Master's Degrees which require only course work. To ensure the quality and workload for a degree is comparable for the thesis, project option, and professional (non-thesis and non-project) minimum must be set and applied across all degrees.

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