

**Middle Tennessee State University**

**Faculty Senate**

**Resolution 041309-1: M.A. Graduate Teaching Assistantship Compensation**

WHEREAS, The MTSU *Graduate Student Handbook* stipulates that “Graduate students have a right to be respected as individuals of merit and as junior colleagues” (6),

WHEREAS, The administration of the university has announced the intention to direct funds to the Graduate College to increase the numbers of graduate teaching assistants,

WHEREAS, The present cadre of masters-level graduate teaching assistants make up the majority of graduate teaching assistants required to teach, tutor, or assist in faculty research,

WHEREAS, The masters-level graduate teaching assistantship provides less than half the compensation of the Ph.D. graduate teaching assistantship (i.e. \$6,000-\$6,400 for M.A.’s on nine-month contracts and \$8,000-\$8,533 for M.A.’s on twelve-month contracts as opposed to \$14,000 for Ph.D.’s, all of whom are on twelve-month contracts) for the same amount of service to the university,

Therefore, the Faculty Senate recommends that the administration take steps to make masters-level graduate teaching assistantship compensation more equitable either by increasing the amounts awarded to masters-level graduate teaching assistants or by placing all masters-level graduate teaching assistants on twelve-month contracts.