

Co-authorship Policy
Approved – June 17, 2015**Co-Authorship Policy**

The thesis/dissertation or equivalent (hereafter called the capstone) may be presented wholly or in part including chapters or other segments that involve co-authored, collaborative work. In cases of co-authorship, the student's capstone committee approval will be taken as certification that the student's individual contributions are sufficient for the capstone requirement; these contributions should be comparable to those in acceptable single-authored capstones. The acknowledgements or introductory portion of the capstone should clearly indicate the detailed role and contributions of the student in co-authored works. In those graduate programs where the general expectation is the capstone will be solely authored by the student, this should be established as a formal policy by the program applicable to all students with adequate notification of the policy to students. Both committees and programs should use their own membership publication or equivalent records as guidelines as to the acceptability of co-authorship by students. Whenever conflicts arise over collaborative authorships, Graduate Council urges the parties involved to resolve their conflict on the basis of professional ethics, integrity and fair play.

A capstone is expected to conform to appropriate copyright laws. If portions have already been published or presented in copyrighted form, the student must obtain the appropriate permissions from the copyright holder(s).

Published, accepted, or in preparation for publication works are included in this policy. Graduate programs and their faculty should not have prior publication/presentation in refereed venues as a requirement for a degree, of portions or the entirety of a capstone. The submission of portions of the capstone to refereed venues can be a degree requirement, if policies regarding this have been approved by the graduate program applicable uniformly to all students. This policy addresses the academic aspects of graduate education but not employment conditions.