



# UNC CHARLOTTE

Office of Academic Affairs

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November 29, 2016

Dr. Lisa Walker  
Faculty President  
UNC Charlotte

Dear Lisa,

In accordance with the faculty policy concerning award of posthumous degrees, I am forwarding a request from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences to award an undergraduate degree at the December 2016 commencement:

Laura Lisk, BA, Communication Studies

The justification for the awarding of the degree is attached. I endorse this request and ask that it be considered for faculty approval at the next Faculty Executive Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joan".

Joan F. Lorden  
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Attachment

cc: Nancy Gutierrez, Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Jason Black, Chair, Department of Communication Studies  
Chris Knauer, University Registrar



**Office of the Dean**

9201 University City Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28223-0001  
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TO: Joan F. Lorden, Provost

FROM: Nancy A. Gutierrez *Nancy A. Gutierrez*  
Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

DATE: November 28, 2016

SUBJECT: Posthumous Degree Recommendation

I am writing to formally recommend that Ms. Laura Lisk, from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, be granted a posthumous degree during the December 2016 commencement ceremony. Ms. Lisk passed away unexpectedly over the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend on November 27, 2016 after a fatal car accident. She was a Communication Studies major and she was on track to graduate in December. She had earned 113 credit hours and a cumulative GPA of 3.04.

According to Dr. Jason Black, Chair of Communication Studies, Ms. Lisk was registered for 12 hours this fall (COMM 3051, COMM 3101, COMM 4115, and WGST 3102) and was, thus, "duly enrolled. Ms. Lisk's graduation file was reviewed on November 23, 2016 and was found to be sound for Commencement in December 2016; she needed only to pass the following classes with a "D" or higher: COMM 3051, COMM 3101, and COMM 4115. As of November 28, 2016, Ms. Lisk's grades in the above-named courses listed on her graduation audit were: A (COMM 3051); B (COMM 3101); and B- (COMM 4115). Finally, Dr. Black notes that Ms. Lisk is noted as "active" and in "good standing" in our departmental files.

Had she been able to complete the courses she was taking this semester, Ms. Lisk would have completed all of the requirements for the Communication Studies degree. For all of the aforementioned reasons and in concert with the support by Dr. Jason Black and an endorsement by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Faculty Council, I recommend that Ms. Lisk be awarded a posthumous BA degree in Communication Studies in December 2016, which is when she should have graduated.