FD and FDRP Joint Resolution #01 – 2017

This resolution contemplates additional procedures specific to Law undergraduate programs for the revalidation of undergraduate degrees granted by foreign higher education institutions.

The Presidents of the Undergraduate Committees from the Faculty of Law and the Law School of Ribeirão Preto of the University of São Paulo, taking the content of the CoG Resolution #7072, from July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015, into consideration and according to what was discussed by the schools' Undergraduate Committees and Faculty Senates, issue the following:

## RESOLUTION

**Article 1** – The Undergraduate Committees of both schools are responsible for the process of revalidating undergraduate degrees granted by foreign higher education institutions, given that the degree is duly validated by the country of origin's legislation and that the academic curriculum is equivalent between institutions.

**Article 2** – After the School receives the files for the revalidation process, in March and September of every year, the Undergraduate Committee will be allotted 90 (ninety) days to issue a declaration, with the possibility of assigning an *ad hoc* referee for preliminary analysis of the equivalence between both curriculums, in order to evaluate the candidate's qualifications.

**§1** – The referee can request additional information or complementary documentation from the candidate if these are necessary to the preliminary analysis of curriculum equivalence.

**§2** – If deemed necessary, the referee can request a certified translation of the documentation, except for documents in English or Spanish, which will be analyzed in the language they were issued in.

**§3** – The candidate will be allowed thirty days to respond to the Undergraduate Committee's referee's request.

**§4** – After this request is fulfilled or if the deadline passes without an answer from the candidate, the deadline for the Undergraduate Committee's deliberation will be extended.

**§5** – In the case of a degree granted by a foreign institution that is in a Double Degree Agreement with USP, the revalidation will be automatically granted, as long as the agreement's specific rules are met.

**Article 3** – If the preliminary analysis, which Article 2 refers to, is finished as planned, the Undergraduate Committee will request each of the Schools'

Departments to issue an evaluation of the curriculum's equivalence, with a 20 (twenty) day deadline.

**§1** – The Department will analyze the candidate's curriculum and compare it to the program it offers, in order to present a substantiated report on the revalidation request. This report can also contemplate information regarding the quality and global performance of the foreign institution.

**§2** – If this analysis finds that there is compatibility between both curriculums, as defined by the foreign curriculum encompassing most of the Department's program's contents, each Department must state their decision:

I – through the approval of the revalidation request, in the case of the Department's core program contents being sufficiently covered by the candidate's institution of origin.

**II** – through a request for the candidate to take an exam, in the case of the Department's core program contents not being sufficiently covered by the candidate's institution of origin.

**§3** – If this analysis finds that the curriculums are incompatible, as defined by the foreign curriculum encompassing content different than most of the Department's program contents, the Department will state the denial of the revalidation request and the candidate will not be allowed to take an exam.

**Article 4** – Once every department report is presented, they will be consolidated and sent to the Undergraduate Committee in its next regular meeting.

**Sole paragraph.** The candidate will be informed about the Undergraduate Committee's decision.

**Article 5** – The exams must happen within 60 (sixty) days from the date the candidate is informed of the Undergraduate Committee's decision.

**§1** – Unjustified absence at the date and time of the exam, defined by the Undergraduate Committee, is considered equivalent to withdrawing from the selection process.

**§2** – Each Department that decides the exam is necessary is entitled to present one single question that covers their core program contents.

**§3** – The questions presented by the Departments must be handed in at a time stipulated by the Undergraduate Committee. The candidate will be allowed 5 (five) hours to complete the exam and is allowed to refer to non-commented legal text.

**§4** – Candidates will be approved if they score a grade above 5,0 (on a scale from 0 to 10) in each question. The questions are marked by a faculty member from each Department, who will take into account the candidate's mastery of Brazilian law and their ability to comprehend the foundations of the national legal framework.

**§5** – If the candidate fails any of the tests, the Undergraduate Committee will state that they did not fill the requirements for the approval of the request and will notify the candidate, preventing them from renewing the foreign degree revalidation request.

**§6** – After the Undergraduate Committee receives the marked exams from the faculty member assigned to this role, the assigned referee will issue their comprehensive report and will forward it to the Undergraduate Committee for discussion on its following regular meeting.

**Article 6** – After the Undergraduate Committee is finished with its evaluation, its comprehensive report will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate and to the Undergraduate Council next, in order for it to be properly certified.

**Sole paragraph.** Degrees that have already been deemed non-equivalent to those granted by the University of São Paulo are not eligible for a new revalidation request.

Article 7 – Omission situations will be handled by the Undergraduate Committee.

**Article 8** – This resolution will come into effect on its publishing date, after Faculty Senates from the Faculty of Law and the Law School of Ribeirão Preto state their agreement on it.

Faculty of Law of São Paulo and Law School of Ribeirão Preto, April 4th, 2017.