GROG Confidentiality Practices

May 2011: approved by GROG

Principles:

To ensure the best possible review of proposals and final projects, it is important for GROG members to freely and thoroughly discuss the strengths and weakness of every submission under conditions of strict confidentiality. At the same time, the GROG recognizes the importance of providing specific feedback to the 699 student(s) and advisor(s) for the sake of improving future research work and, if necessary, revising 699 projects.

Based on these considerations, the following guidelines are intended to help clarify how an individual GROG member may communicate with 699 student(s) and advisor(s).

A member of the GROG may:

1. Convey the consensus opinion of the GROG regarding proposals and final papers. Much of this information should be provided in the GROG’s written feedback, but the GROG recognizes that the combination of written and verbal feedback together may provide the most comprehensive picture to the 699 student(s) and advisor(s).
2. At their discretion, waive anonymity in regards to his/her own individual opinion when providing feedback to the 699 student(s) and advisor(s) about their proposal or final papers.

A member of the GROG may not:

1. Communicate any results from GROG evaluations before the GROG has finalized a consensus opinion and agreed to release that information.
2. Convey the opinions or quotes of any specific GROG member, as the confidentiality of all GROG members is strictly protected.

The student representative on the GROG is expected to maintain confidentiality in regards to communication with the 699 student(s). In this way the 699 student(s) may feel comfortable bringing issues and concerns to their representative. Based on this additional role, the student representative should follow additional guidelines.

The student representative may:

1. Communicate student opinions and concerns to the GROG anonymously.
2. Discuss specific issues between the student(s) and the GROG when the student(s) in question wish those issues brought up for discussion.