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**A Resolution**

**A resolution to be known as "Increasing Accessibility to Research Tools for Doctoral Students", which calls for providing research tools such as SPSS and NVivo to doctoral students on personal devices, free of charge.**

**WHEREAS:** Texas State University is aspiring to be a research 1 institution and educates almost 400 doctoral students from 12 different doctoral programs; and

**WHEREAS:** doctoral students are often required or encouraged to utilize research software such as SPSS for quantitative research and NVivo for qualitative research; and

**WHEREAS:** these software programs are currently only available in public computer labs, which have limited hours and are not conducive for doctoral students who often conduct research off-campus, including internationally, and may work remotely or during odd hours and thus require the software be installed on their personal devices; and

**WHEREAS:** research tools such as SPSS and NVivo are expensive to purchase and peer institutions, such as University of Oregon

(SPSS), University of North Texas (SPSS and NVivo), University of Arkansas (SPSS), University of Texas El Paso (SPSS), University of Texas Arlington (SPSS), University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (SPSS), University of Northern Illinois (NVivo), Old Dominion University (NVivo) currently offer such programs for free or discounted rates for their graduate students; and

**WHEREAS:** these software programs are only free for current faculty and students who are working directly with current faculty on a specific research project; and

**WHEREAS:** these tools should not be limited to only dissertation research as many qualitative and quantitative research courses require the use of such tools and doctoral students often engage in research projects other than their dissertation to expand their scholarly knowledge and begin publishing before writing their dissertation, which assists the university in attaining the coveted research one status and

**WHEREAS:** these tools can enhance the accuracy and efficiency of research projects and provide additional skills for doctoral students, which can increase employability;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that upon passage of this resolution, doctoral students at Texas State University may request access to limited-term licenses to SPSS (12-month or 24-month term valued at \$35 or \$53 respectively) and NVivo (24-month term valued at

approximately \$110) through ITAC free of charge, or long-term licenses at the discretion of ITAC based on the parameters of the student's project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That upon passage this legislation be forwarded to Dean of The Graduate College, Dr. Andrea Golato, Vice President for Information Technology, Kenneth Pierce, and Assistance Vice President of IT Assistance Center, Ben Rogers.