MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Tom E. Wehrly
Speaker, The Faculty Senate

SUBJECT: Early Admission Program - South Texas College of Law

During the April 12, 1999 Faculty Senate meeting, the Senate approved a "draft" document entitled "Framework for an Early Admission Program to the South Texas College of Law." I am not approving the "draft" document. However, I am approving the finalized version of that document which is attached. This finalized document has the following paragraph inserted into the document on page two:

TAMU Degree Completion Issues

Prior to enrolling at STCL, the student and the dean of the student's college should agree upon a degree plan including the courses at STCL such that the college will recommend granting a TAMU degree upon the successful completion of all the courses in the degree plan. If no degree plan including courses at STCL has been agreed upon and after successfully finishing sufficient course work at STCL (normally following the first year) to complete the hour requirements for the student's TAMU degree, the student may petition his/her home TAMU college for the degree to which, on the basis of his/her undergraduate record, he/she would be entitled.

This particular paragraph was only a footnote in the Senate's draft document which was approved at the April 12 meeting.

Ray M. Bowen
President

Attachment

cc: Dr. Ronald G. Douglas
    Dr. Mark Weichold
    Ms. Linda Lacey
    Dr. Cesar Malave
Framework for an Early Admission Program
To the
South Texas College of Law

Revised: 20 January 1999
Accepted By AOC: 20 January 1999
Accepted and Endorsed by the UCC: 12 February 1999
Approved by the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee: 15 February 1999
Approved by the Faculty Senate: 12 April 1999

Due to the variety of degree programs available at Texas A&M University and the requirements unique to each of these, it is the case that not all degree programs will necessarily be compatible with the Early Admission Program to the South Texas College of Law. The student considering participation in the program is advised to seek counseling early as to whether a particular degree program is compatible with early admission to the South Texas College of Law.

Admission Issues

Application to the South Texas College of Law (STCL) under the Early Admission program does not guarantee admission to STCL. Admission decisions are made solely by STCL through its faculty admissions committee.

The student must apply directly to STCL and must meet STCL admission requirements.

While at TAMU, students must earn a cumulative GPA of no less than 3.25 and have no more than one semester (long semester or summer session) less than 3.25 in order to be eligible for and to remain in this Early Admission program.

Prior to the commencement of the individual's classes at STCL, the student must be within 30 hours of completing the declared TAMU degree program requirements and must have fulfilled TAMU residency requirements.

Prior to the commencement of the individual's classes at STCL and while as a TAMU undergraduate, the student must have completed all University Core Curriculum requirements and must have completed all requirements for a major in a Department of the student's college.

The Early Admission program at STCL will permit students to apply only for Fall admission.

Students not accepted under the Early Admission program will still retain the option of applying to STCL through traditional methods.

Records Issues

It is the student's responsibility to work closely with the Undergraduate Dean of the appropriate college to ensure that courses taken at STCL will count toward the TAMU degree requirements.

The TAMU Registrar's Office will perform a degree audit and certify in writing to STCL that the student is within 30 hours of completing the declared degree program requirements and that the student has completed 75% of the course work required for the declared degree.

If a student is directed to leave or chooses to leave the STCL program after the first semester, or anytime prior to the completion of the J.D. degree requirements, for academic or for other reasons, the courses completed by the student will be considered for transfer to TAMU on a course by course basis.
Academic Standing Issues

Grade points earned by the student while in attendance at TAMU will not be considered in the calculation of the student's GPR while at STCL.

While enrolled at STCL, the student will abide by all academic requirements as set forth by STCL.

TAMU Degree Completion Issues

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The Dean of the College granting the TAMU undergraduate degree will review each student's academic record at STCL and, on that basis, make a recommendation of either granting or not granting the Bachelor's degree.

The student must meet all TAMU graduation requirements and, if recommended by their college to receive the baccalaureate degree, must follow all University procedures for the awarding of the degree.

Students not accepted to STCL under the Early Admission program will still retain the option of completing their undergraduate degrees as a student at TAMU.

Advising Issues

Early and accurate advising for the student is key to success in the Early Admission program. Students considering participation in the Early Admission program shall seek advice from the Office of Professional School Advising and from the Undergraduate Dean of the student's college.

Prior to the successful completion of the first thirty hours at STCL, the student will not be permitted to co-enroll in another institution of higher education while taking classes at STCL.