MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 14, 2008

TO: Dr. Angie Price
    Speaker, Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. David W. Parrott
      Chair, Rules and Regulations Committee

SUBJECT: Proposed Revisions to the Texas A&M Student Rules

Attached please find proposed revisions to the Texas A&M University Student Rules as approved by the Rules and Regulations Committee. These changes are for the following section:

Section 14.5 Undergraduate Catalog
Student Rule: 14.5

EXISTING RULE:
14.5 A student is expected to complete the baccalaureate degree course and hour requirements as outlined in the catalog in effect at the time he or she declares a major, or changes majors, or those of any later catalog of the student's choice. Normally, a student will not be granted a degree based upon completion of the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. Declaration of a change of catalog must be submitted to the dean in writing, after the student has consulted with his or her academic advisor. It is incumbent on the student to verify that the change has been made. With the specific written approval of his or her dean, a student may vary his or her catalog course requirements. The baccalaureate degree requirements for a graduating student who first enrolled more than seven years prior to the time of graduation will be established by his or her dean. The catalog number assigned for a student declaring a major from General Studies will be the number in effect at the time of entry into General Studies, or any subsequent catalog of the student's choice that falls within the seven year limit.

RULE APPROVED BY RULES AND REGULATION COMMITTEE & FACULTY SENATE
14.5 A student is expected to complete the baccalaureate degree course and hour requirements as outlined in the catalog in effect at the time he or she first enrolls at Texas A&M. Students may choose to move to a later catalog. Normally, a student will not be granted a degree based upon completion of the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. Declaration of a change of catalog must be submitted to the dean in writing, after the student has consulted with his or her academic advisor. It is incumbent on the student to verify that the change has been made. With the specific written approval of his or her dean, a student may vary his or her catalog course requirements. The baccalaureate degree requirements for a graduating student who first enrolled more than seven years prior to the time of graduation will be established by his or her dean. The catalog number assigned for a student declaring a major from General Studies will be the number in effect at the time of entry into General Studies, or any subsequent catalog of the student's choice that falls within the seven year limit.

RULE WITH PROPOSED CHANGES:
14.5 A student is expected to complete the baccalaureate degree course and hour requirements as outlined in the catalog in effect at the time he or she first enrolls at Texas A&M. A student transferring to Texas A&M from another institution may choose to move to a Texas A&M University catalog in effect at the same time the student first enrolled at the institution from which the student transferred. Students may choose to move to a later catalog. Normally, a student will not be granted a degree based upon completion of the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. Declaration of a change of catalog must be submitted to the dean, or designee, in writing, after the student has consulted with his or her academic advisor. It is incumbent on the student to verify that the change has been made. With the specific written approval of his or her dean, or designee, a student may vary his or her catalog course requirements. The baccalaureate degree requirements for a graduating student who first enrolled more than seven years prior to the time of graduation will be established by his or her dean, or designee.
JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

The first version was approved by Faculty Senate, however, it was noted that the first rule didn’t address transfer students. The addition of the transfer student line in this proposal puts this rule in line with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board rule 4.25 (g) from Chapter 4 of their Rules and Regulations:

“(g) Each institution of higher education shall permit a student who transfers from another Texas public institution of higher education to choose a catalog for the purpose of specifying graduation requirements, based upon the dates of attendance at the receiving institution and at the transferring institution, in the same manner that a non-transfer student may choose a catalog. Each Texas public institution of higher education shall include information about graduation requirements under a particular catalog in its official publications, including print and electronic catalogs.”

COMMENTS:

Submitted by:
Dr. Kriss Boyd, Associate Dean
Undergraduate Programs, General Academic Studies

Approved by the Rules and Regulations Committee on 1/11/2008.