MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 17, 2009

TO: Dr. Clint Magill
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:

1.16.2
EXISTING RULE:

1.16.2 A student may drop a course with no record during the first five class days of a fall or spring semester and during the first four class days of a summer term or a 10-week summer semester. Following this period, if approved by the Dean of the College or his or her designee, a student may drop a course without academic penalty through the 50th class day of a fall or spring semester, the 15th class day of summer term or the 35th class day of a 10-week summer semester. The symbol Q shall be given to indicate a drop without academic penalty. Undergraduate students will normally be permitted three Q-drops during their undergraduate studies at Texas A&M University. State law prohibits students from having more than six dropped courses from all state institutions attended during their undergraduate career if they entered higher education as first-time enrolled freshman beginning the 2007 fall semester and thereafter. For exceptions see rule 1.18.

RULE WITH PROPOSED CHANGES:

1.16.2 A student may drop a course with no record during the first five twelve class days of a fall or spring semester and during the first four class days of a summer term or a 10-week summer semester. Following this period, if approved by the Dean of the College or his or her designee, a student may drop a course without academic penalty through the 50th class day of a fall or spring semester, the 15th class day of summer term or the 35th class day of a 10-week summer semester. The symbol Q shall be given to indicate a drop without academic penalty. Undergraduate students will normally be permitted three Q-drops during their undergraduate studies at Texas A&M University. State law prohibits students from having more than six dropped courses from all state institutions attended during their undergraduate career if they entered higher education as first-time enrolled freshman beginning the 2007 fall semester and thereafter. For exceptions see rule 1.18.

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

These changes are an effort to implement a state-mandated limit on the number of courses dropped by a student after the official census date. SB 1231 of the 80th Texas Legislature prohibits students who first enroll as freshman in the fall 2007 or later from dropping more than six courses at all Texas public institutions without a showing of good cause. Courses that are dropped without good cause after the twelfth class day are posted as Q-drops, and they count toward the limit of six drops. Prior to the twelfth class day they cannot be posted as Q-drops since the state does not count those drops in the limit of 6 drops. This text reflects practices put in place over a year ago to comply with the law.

COMMENTS:

- Approved by the Student Rules and Regulations Committee on 1/11/2008. Added “For exceptions see rule 1.18.” on 2/5/2008 to alert students to exceptions within the state law.
- Returned From Faculty Senate: Student Rule 1.16.2. This rule is returned to the Rules and Regulations Committee pending the submission of Rule 1.18 due to the reference to Rule 1.18.
- Rule 1.18 approved by President on 8/29/08.
- Student Rules and Reg is now resubmitting Rule 1.16.2 for approval.
- Faculty Senate amended rule on 12/8/08. FS did not approve changing the time allotted to drop with no record from five days to twelve days as proposed by the SRRC. FS amended the rule and changed the drop with no record back to five days. FS approved amended rule.
- Student Rules and Reg is resubmitting Rule 1.16.2 for approval with change and an expanded Justification for Proposed Change.

Submitted by: Date Submitted: 12/17/07

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