MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 21, 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:

10.10.1
EXISTING RULE:

10.10.1 First Year Grade Exclusion Policy (Revised 2008)

A currently enrolled Texas A&M undergraduate student may elect to exclude from his/her undergraduate degree and cumulative GPR calculation grades of D, F, or U. This exclusion shall be permitted for up to a maximum of three courses taken for credit at Texas A&M University during the twelve month period beginning with the student's initial enrollment at Texas A&M University after high school graduation. Transfer students are not eligible for first year grade exclusion.

The first year grade exclusion option may be used only by an undergraduate student who applied and enrolled for the first time at Texas A&M University, regardless of whether the student has acquired college level credit through testing, advanced placement, or summer enrollment. First year grade exclusion may be used only for courses taken at Texas A&M University during the first 12 consecutive months of college enrollment after high school graduation. Sophomores, juniors and seniors also may use the exclusions for courses taken at Texas A&M University in their first twelve months as college students, dating from initial enrollment.

• All courses chosen for first year grade exclusion shall remain on the official transcript and be designated on the transcript as excluded.

• First year grade exclusion cannot be invoked after a baccalaureate degree has been conferred upon the student.

• First year grade exclusion requests for degree candidates must be received in the Office of the Registrar not later than 5 p.m. the day midterm grades are due when the student is graduating in a fall or spring semester or not later than 5 p.m. Friday of the third week of class for the second summer session when the student is graduating in August.

• First year grade exclusion will affect student classification if excluding a course lowers total completed hours below 95, 60, or 30 hours.

• Grades for courses in which the student was found to have committed academic dishonesty will not be excluded from the GPR calculation, regardless whether or not the student completed remediation.

• A course for which the grade has been excluded will not be used to satisfy degree requirements unless it is repeated by the student for an acceptable grade.

• Once a grade in a course has been excluded from the GPR calculation, the student will not later be permitted to have the exclusion removed or otherwise changed.

• Courses for which grades have been excluded will be counted as attempted hours when determining eligibility for tuition rebates, calculating excess credit hours, and determining third-time repeats.

• Courses for which grades have been excluded will not be taken into account when determining eligibility for a change of major, university scholarships, or achievement based awards.

• Courses excluded under this policy are NOT excluded when determining whether the student is meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements (total hours completed, percent completion, and GPR) for federal and state financial aid programs.

• While excluded courses will not be factored into Texas A&M University GPR, students should be aware that employers, professional schools, and graduate schools may recalculate the GPR to include such grades.

• University rules regarding Q drops remain unaffected, but students should consult with their undergraduate associate dean or his/her designee.
Students are directed to contact their academic advisor to obtain the necessary form.

**RULE WITH PROPOSED CHANGES:**

10.10.1 First Year Grade Exclusion Policy (Revised 2008)
A currently enrolled Texas A&M undergraduate student may elect to exclude from his/her undergraduate degree and cumulative GPR calculation grades of D, F, or U. This exclusion shall be permitted for up to a maximum of three courses taken for credit at Texas A&M University during the twelve month period beginning with the student's initial enrollment at Texas A&M University after high school graduation. Transfer students are not eligible for first year grade exclusion.

The first year grade exclusion option may be used only by an undergraduate student who applied and enrolled for the first time at Texas A&M University, regardless of whether the student has acquired college level credit through testing, advanced placement, or summer enrollment. First year grade exclusion may be used only for courses taken at Texas A&M University during the first 12 consecutive months of college enrollment after high school graduation. Sophomores, juniors and seniors also may use the exclusions for courses taken at Texas A&M University in their first twelve months as college students, dating from initial enrollment.

• All courses chosen for first year grade exclusion shall remain on the official transcript and be designated on the transcript as excluded.

• First year grade exclusion cannot be invoked after a baccalaureate degree has been conferred upon the student.

• First year grade exclusion requests for degree candidates must be received in the Office of the Registrar not later than 5 p.m. the day midterm grades are due when the student is graduating in a fall or spring semester or not later than 5 p.m. Friday of the third week of class for the second summer session when the student is graduating in August.

• First year grade exclusion will affect student classification if excluding a course lowers total completed hours below 95, 60, or 30 hours.

• Grades for courses in which the student was found to have committed academic dishonesty will not be excluded from the GPR calculation, regardless whether or not the student completed remediation.

• A course for which the grade has been excluded will not be used to satisfy degree requirements unless it is repeated by the student for an acceptable grade.

• Once a grade in a course has been excluded from the GPR calculation, the student will not later be permitted to have the exclusion removed or otherwise changed.

• Courses for which grades have been excluded will be counted as attempted hours when determining eligibility for tuition rebates, calculating excess credit hours, and determining third-time repeats.

• Courses for which grades have been excluded will not be taken into account when determining eligibility for a change of major, university scholarships, or achievement based awards. However, non-university scholarship committees may recalculate the GPR to include such grades.

• Courses excluded under this policy are NOT excluded when determining whether the student is meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements (total hours completed, percent completion, and GPR) for federal and state financial aid programs.

• While excluded courses will not be factored into Texas A&M University GPR, students should be aware that employers, professional schools (including professional schools that are a part of Texas A&M University), undergraduate
schools to which A&M students may seek to transfer, and graduate schools may recalculate the GPR to include such grades.

• University rules regarding Q drops remain unaffected, but students should consult with their undergraduate associate dean or his/her designee.

• Students are directed to contact their academic advisor to obtain the necessary form.

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

To provide more clarification for students that non-university scholarship committees, professional schools and other institutions may recalculate GPR to include grades not factored into TAMU GPR due to grade exclusion.

COMMENTS:

• Rule change will take effect immediately upon approval from President.
• Approved by the Student Rules and Regulations Committee on 4/21/2009.

SUBMITTED BY:

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