

February 17, 2017

TO: UK Senate Council

FROM: Phil Kraemer, Academic Officer for Undergraduate Education

RE: Two requests for Senate Council

1. Request for one-time waiver of Senate Rules that indicate the decision to transfer a student into a college is a decision to be made by the student.

Rationale: A student not currently registered in a college who considers that an adverse decision has been made about him or her by someone other than the Dean of Undergraduate Studies (who is the academic officer identified in the Senate Rules) could appeal to the University Appeals Board that the individual charged by the Senate Rules (the Dean of Undergraduate Studies) to make that decision had not made the academic decision. *Note: The Board of Trustees in GR XI has delegated to the University Senate to establish through its rules the policies of the University about the academic relationship of a student to the University. Under current SR 6.4.1.D, academic decisions about students who opted under SR 4.2.1 not to register in a college are made by the Dean of Undergraduate Studies.*

On February 13, 2017, the Provost sent a letter to the Senate Council assigning the title “Interim Academic Officer of Undergraduate Education” to Dr. Phil Kraemer as the individual he wanted to make these decisions about ‘college-unregistered’ students. Therefore, we are now asking for a waiver of the Senate rule above so that we may stay compliant with the Senate Rules and its processes and the students remain protected through the Senate Rules.

This request is to accommodate the need for students described as “undeclared (UNUS) and who are currently enrolled in the former Undergraduate Education College,” and who remain in this status on February 24, 2017 (because they have not yet chosen a home college). We

request the ability to move these students administratively into a college in which they are admissible and for which their current coursework best aligns with the college's degree programs and is best suited for the students' individual needs. This action is a one-time event and is not to be considered a regular practice. The individuals authorized to perform this administrative move are the Interim Academic Officer of Undergraduate Education (IAOUE) and the Interim Assistant Provost for Student and Academic Support (IAPSAS). They will make a judgment as to which college a given college-unregistered student is admissible to and otherwise best academically aligned. Nine Colleges currently hold a status of undeclared/exploratory. Three of the nine have open admission to all students. These three colleges will accept all students regardless of academic standing, i.e., probation. The Colleges identified along with these students will make a final decision by February 23, 2017 as to whether to admit the student within that college.

*Proposed Request:*

*The IAOUE and IAPSAS request the Senate Council move to waive, on a one-time basis and on behalf of the Senate, relevant Senate Rules (SR), such as SR 4.2.1 and SR 4.2.4 (that indicate the decision to transfer a student into a college is the decision to be made by the student) in order to allow the Interim Academic Officer of Undergraduate Education and the Interim Assistant Provost for Student and Academic Support to administratively move University-admitted but college-unregistered students who have not registered in a college and are currently registered in an undeclared status (UNUS) prior to registration in a college, to colleges in which the students are admissible and to which the students are otherwise best academically aligned.*

2. Proposed Calendar Change: 2017 – 2018 University Calendar

Rationale: All students can theoretically be registered within a college before the deadline of February 26, 2017 (as codified in the spring 2017 academic calendar). However, there may be instances where it is not possible to transfer a student into a college prior to that deadline. In

these instances, the Interim Academic Officer of Undergraduate Education (IAOUE) and the Interim Assistant Provost for Student and Academic Support (IAPSAS) would like the ability to continue working with and on behalf of the student beyond the date of February 26.

According to the Registrar's office, the restriction on changing majors serves two primary functions. First, the window prevents students from changing majors right before priority registration, in order to enroll in courses that are restricted to other specific majors. Before the window was in place, students would do this, only to change their major back afterwards. Second, the window also prevents an unexpected onslaught of advising traffic for advisors. With the window currently in place, advisors in departments and colleges can estimate how many students to expect before the start of priority registration. This allows them to plan accordingly.

The IAOUE and/or the IAPSAS will ensure there are sufficient personnel resources available to process any changes in major for the affected students.

*Proposed Request:*

*The IAOUE and the IAPSAS request that SC move to waive the academic calendar restriction so that if a case arises where a decision about transferring a student into a college cannot be made by February 26, 2017, either the IAOUE or the IAPSAS may help a student during the period of February 27 – April 19. The IAOUE and the IAPSAS further request that this calendar waiver be documented only in the SC minutes (and then reported to the Senate), because changing the academic calendar posted online could be confusing to other students.*