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MEMO

To: Larry Williams
From: Libby Barlow
Cc: Debbie Hermann, Agnes DeFranco, Marsha Daly
Subject: Graduation with Honors
Date: 8/15/2008

EFFECTIVE Fall 2009

I would like to request that the Undergraduate Council review the policy and clarify the catalog language on Graduation with Honors. Specifically, I ask that Council consider the number or proportion of the 66 hours required for graduation with Honors that may be earned through credit by exam or other credits which the University confers within the last 66 hours but which do not contribute to the GPA.

One true but simplified example which may clarify this request is a student who transferred with 54 SCH and subsequently earned 66 SCH at UH. Of those 66 credits awarded at UH, 12 were language credits awarded through CBE. Discussion of the Honors decision revealed that the college requesting Honors has for some time been granting it in cases like this. When similar scenarios have been run through Academic Program Management, the practice has routinely been to deny the Honors request.

As this situation was under discussion, a similar question arose about the appropriate practice when a student has a high number of S/U grades, or a combination of S/U grades and CBE which represent a significant portion of the required 66 hours.

Our practice has been inconsistent, and the catalog language does not, as it stands, provide definitive guidance:

"Undergraduate students who complete their degree requirements will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the following grade point averages earned in the last sixty-six (66) hours completed at the University of Houston."

(at least 60 of which must be letter grade courses)

Review and clarification by Council will be appreciated.

<http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/general/acade3.html#honors>