

From: Simon.Bott@mail.uh.edu on behalf of Simon Bott [sbott@uh.edu]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2011 10:48 AM
To: Gaines, Anita V; Bott, Simon G; ucc@uh.edu
Cc: jmorales@uh.edu
Subject: Re: FW: University Coordinating Commission: International Students Advisory Council Response needed for UCC 0175 11S

The intent of the proposal is that a student cannot be harmed by this changes and clarifications provided.

The three repeat rule cannot be applied retroactively - so that should not be a concern. And - there is ample provision for petitions.

The retroactive aspect is to apply to students who got a worse grade in the last attempt at a class.

We just want to clarify several things - as usual - for Peoplesoft convenience :) with this proposal.

sb

At 10:41 AM 4/29/2011, Gaines, Anita V wrote:

Dear Dr. Bott and UCC Members:

I have shared the e-mail below and the proposal titled Proposal to Change the University of Houston Repeat Rule (UCC 0175 11S) with members of the International Students Advisory Council. I received the following comments:

There is support for the determination that the student should not be deprived of the benefit of graduation because of a later less improved grade, yet all grades should show on the transcript.

There is support for the recommendation that the best attempt should be considered toward degree requirements; however, that one of the previous lower grades should not be included in calculating the cumulative grade point average.

There is support for a block being placed against a student requesting to take a course a 4th time, thereby requiring that the student seek permission from the department as long as the cutoff date for exception permission is clearly communicated to students and to the International Student and Scholar Services Office (ISSSO) so that ISSSO will know how to advise students regarding their non-immigrant status obligations.

As this recommendation proposes the three attempts rule be applied retroactively (page 5, next to last paragraph), there is concern about international students inadvertently falling below a full course of study for Fall 2011 (particularly if the student is expecting fall 2011 to be the final semester). When is the cutoff date for exception permissions? These exception deadlines need to be clearly communicated to students and our office so we will know how to advise student's regarding their non-immigrant status obligations.

There is a concern about the determination that it should be retroactive, only because then why retroactive for only one semester? It should become active for the future

semester after all students have had equal opportunity to become aware of the change in policy.

The last paragraph of page 5 states the "Committee suggests that the Office of Records and Registration contact all University of Houston students via email and make them aware..." We wonder if there is a way to proactively identify students potentially affected by this rule and increase communications specifically with this population? For example, at-risk students could also receive communications from their academic advisors and/or the ISSSO, if on F-1 or J-1 visas.

Sincerely,

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