UNIVERSITY SENATE | PROPOSAL

Submitted on: Nov. 6, 2019

Amendment to the University of Maryland Undergraduate Student Course Repeat Policy

NAME/TITLE	Doug Roberts, Associate Dean and Associate Professor		
EMAIL	roberts@umd.edu	PHONE	x5-9357
UNIT	Undergraduate Studies	CONSTITUENCY	Faculty

DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE

Following the recent development of the University of Maryland Undergraduate Student Course Repeat Policy in April 2019 and subsequent implementation process, we have identified an unintended consequence of the language in section V.A. Total Credits Earned that disadvantages undergraduate students. We would like to propose a modification of this section. The current language reads "A. Total Credits Earned: students earn credit for only one Attempt of a course. The earned credit comes from the most recent Attempt of the course." After working with advisors and other stakeholders on the implementation of the new policy, it was pointed out that this part of the policy could result in a reduction of a student's earned credit total upon repeating a course. For example, if a student earns a passing grade in a course and therefore earns credit, but fails or withdraws from a subsequent attempt of the same course, that student would lose the previously earned credit from the initial attempt. It was viewed as unfair to take away credit that a student had previously earned and paid for. Note that the GPA calculation would still be governed by Sections V.B. and VI.

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE

We propose changing Section V. A. to read:
"A. Total Credits Earned: students earn credit for only one Attempt at a course. In cases where the earned credit for multiple Attempts differs, the highest number of earned credits will be used."

SUGGESTION FOR HOW YOUR PROPOSAL WOULD BE PUT INTO PRACTICE

This new repeat policy has not been fully implemented yet. Therefore, this change should be trivial to incorporate in to the implementation plan. Since this policy was only recently developed and approved by the Senate, it does not need a comprehensive review.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION