CHAIRS OF SENATE DIVISIONS AND COMMITTEES:

Re: Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 544

September 8, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I am forwarding for systemwide Senate review revisions to Senate Regulation 544 proposed by the University Committee on Educational Policy. The revisions are intended to facilitate UC student access to courses offered on other UC campuses by clarifying certain aspects of the cross-campus course enrollment process.

Please submit comments to the Academic Senate office at SenateReview@ucop.edu by November 16, 2020 to allow us to compile and summarize comments for the Academic Council’s November 23 meeting. As always, any committee that considers these matters outside its jurisdiction or charge may decline to comment.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Gauvain, Chair
Academic Council

Encl:
March 30, 2020

RE: Revisions to SR544, cross-campus enrollments

Dear Kum-Kum,

SR544 sets rules governing cross-campus enrollments with the goal of facilitating access and the transfer of credits between campuses. In 1999, the regulations were revised to cover both traditional face-to-face courses and online courses offered by campuses (and, more recently, online courses that are facilitated by the Innovative Learning Technology Initiative, or ILTI).

Recognizing that online courses are an important mechanism to innovate and to decrease time-to-degree, we are proposing revisions to SR544 to facilitate student access. This letter reflects recommendations and suggestions from UCEP members that were made in consultation with ILTI.

Summary of proposed changes and rationale:

* That prerequisites must be verified before a student is enrolled in a class. This will ensure that students aren’t dropped after the start of the quarter for failing to meet requirements.
* A student should be allowed to petition to exceed the upper limit of non-home campus enrollments that is imposed by their home campus (on most campuses, but not all, students must be enrolled in 12 units on their home campus before enrolling in a cross-campus course). Allowing flexibility will ensure that campuses can provide adequate oversight and support for their students, while simultaneously allowing exceptions for students who would benefit from taking more units via cross-campus enrollments.
* A student should be allowed to petition for the type of credit that they seek (GE, major, etc.).
* Articulation officers (or relevant personnel) on each campus will determine, upon request, whether cross-campus courses can be treated as equivalent to a course on that campus.

Existing SR544

A. A UC student's home campus must permit a student in good standing to enroll simultaneously in courses offered by the home campus and in course(s) offered by another UC campus. Similarly, a UC student's home campus must also permit a student in good standing to enroll in summer courses offered by another UC campus. However, non-home campuses are not obliged to accept enrollment by students from other UC campuses. Each campus may set an upper limit on the total number of non-home campus enrollment units or courses its own student may apply toward graduation requirements.
B. In order to ensure that the units will count toward any requirements, including unit requirements, students in residence at their home campus must inform the home campus in writing before enrolling in a course offered by another UC campus. This may be accomplished by electronic or conventional means, according to the home campus's procedures.

C. If the student wishes a course taken on a non-home UC campus to satisfy a breadth, major, or other specific requirement (other than unit credit), he or she is responsible for determining that an existing formal agreement establishes that the course will satisfy the requirement OR for securing approval, in advance of registering, from the relevant academic unit on the home campus. If these requirements are not met, the home campus may refuse to allow the course to satisfy specific requirements (other than unit requirements).

D. UC courses approved by either UCEP or CCGA as system-wide courses shall be listed in Divisional catalogues. (En 10 Nov 04)

Proposed revision of SR 544, with changes highlighted

A. A UC student's home campus must permit a student in good standing to enroll simultaneously in courses offered by the home campus and in course(s) offered by another UC campus. Similarly, a UC student's home campus must also permit a student in good standing to enroll in summer courses offered by another UC campus. However, non-home campuses are not obliged to accept enrollment by students from other UC campuses.

As per SR 542, satisfaction of all prerequisites for a course must be verified before a student is enrolled. The requirements may be waived by the appropriate study list authority. Each campus may set an upper limit on the total number of non-home campus enrollment units or courses its own student may apply toward graduation requirements. A UC student is allowed to petition his/her campus for permission to exceed the upper limit of non-home campus courses that can be counted towards graduation and/or enrollments.

B. In order to ensure that the units will count toward any requirements, including unit requirements, students in residence at their home campus must inform the home campus in writing before enrolling in a course offered by another UC campus. This may be accomplished by electronic or conventional means, according to the home campus's procedures.

C. If the student wishes a course taken on a non-home UC campus to satisfy a breadth, major, or other specific requirement (other than unit credit), s/he is responsible for determining that an existing formal agreement establishes that the course will satisfy the requirement OR for securing approval, in advance of registering, from the relevant academic unit on the home campus. If these requirements are not met, the home campus may refuse to allow the course to satisfy specific requirements (other than unit requirements). A UC student may petition to receive the type of credit they seek.

D. UC courses approved by either UCEP or CCGA as system-wide courses shall be listed in Divisional catalogues. (En 10 Nov 04)

E. UC campuses (including relevant departments responsible for course articulations) will, upon request, evaluate if a course developed, offered and approved by the Academic Senate at another
UC campus can be treated as equivalent to one of its courses, and provide more than unit credit for successful completion of the course.

Note that SR544A refers to a “student in good standing”. At UCEP’s request, UC Rules and Jurisdiction (UCRJ) clarified that students who are enrolled in their first quarter/semester at the UC are, by default, in “good standing”.

Sincerely,

John Serences,
Chair UCEP
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