



August 23, 2012

TO: MARY GAUVAIN, CHAIR  
RIVERSIDE DIVISION

FM: MARTIN JOHNSON, CHAIR  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

**RE: CEP RESPONSE TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO REGULATION 6.12**

At its final meeting of AY 2011-12 (June 5, 2012), CEP reviewed additions to R6.12 proposed by the Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction. I apologize for the delay of my memorandum on this matter.

CEP supports the intent of this proposal and only expressed concerns about potential ambiguities in the proposed language of R6.12.1. Members of the committee were particularly concerned with how the proposed rule distributed the delay of changes. The committee wanted to be certain that the policy applied to changes in curricula and requirements for both courses and majors, proposing language such as this:

“R6.12.1 Changes in a curriculum or prerequisite requirements both for courses and majors may not be implemented until the quarter following the publication of the change in the General Catalog unless an exception is approved at the time the change in curriculum or prerequisite requirements is adopted. “

**COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JURISDICTION  
REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
Fall Division Meeting - TBD**

To Be Adopted:

**Proposed Change to UCR Regulations:  
Regulation 6.12**

**PRESENT**

R6.12 To be awarded the Bachelor's Degree, a student must either (a) meet graduation requirements in the UCR catalog in effect in the year of his/her graduation from the Riverside Campus; or (b) fulfill graduation requirements in one UCR catalog applicable during any of the previous four years in which the student successfully completed at least one quarter or one semester of full-time college-level work, regardless of where matriculated. Upon applying for candidacy, the student must specify the applicable catalog. (En 5 November 87)

**PROPOSED**

R6.12 To be awarded the Bachelor's Degree, a student must either (a) meet graduation requirements in the UCR catalog in effect in the year of his/her graduation from the Riverside Campus; or (b) fulfill graduation requirements in one UCR catalog applicable during any of the previous four years in which the student successfully completed at least one quarter or one semester of full-time college-level work, regardless of where matriculated. Upon applying for candidacy, the student must specify the applicable catalog. (En 5 November 87)

R6.12.1 Changes in prerequisite requirements for courses, majors, and curricula may not be implemented until the quarter following the publication of the change in the General Catalog unless an exception is approved at the time the change in prerequisites is adopted.

**Justification:**

A timetable for the full implementation of changes in graduation requirements (general university requirements, college breadth requirements, and major requirements) is currently specified in R6.12. However, changes to prerequisites for courses, majors, or any curricular change not involving graduation requirements, are not covered by existing legislation. Proposed R6.12.1 establishes a default implementation date for such changes. Exceptions to this default may be granted presuming an alternative is specified and approved as part of the change to the prerequisite requirement.

According to current regulations, a proposal for changes to prerequisites for courses, majors, or any curricular change not involving graduation requirements could be

implemented before students had any time to make adjustments to prepare for the change. More importantly, this stepped up implementation could be inadvertent; it might be the result of an oversight, involving the failure to specify the implementation timetable in writing. This may create a serious and unintended hardship for the students affected.

Approvals:

Rules and Jurisdiction – 5/10/12  
Committee on Educational Policy –

April 20, 2012

TO: MARY GAUVAIN, CHAIR  
RIVERSIDE DIVISION

KAMBIZ VAFAI, CHAIR  
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JURISDICTION

FM: MARTIN JOHNSON, CHAIR  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

**RE: REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION, REGULATION R6.12**

At its April 2, 2012, meeting, the Committee on Educational Policy considered a request for clarification on the process of approving requested changes to major requirements. Specifically, the committee was asked to explain whether its “approval of such changes is contingent upon the implementation process” in order to inform the Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction’s consideration of a request for an interpretation of Regulation R6.12. CEP discussed its perspective on the regulation as well as its process for approving change of major requirements.

**R6.12**

The Regulation reads,

To be awarded the Bachelor's Degree, a student must either (a) meet graduation requirements in the UCR catalog in effect in the year of his/her graduation from the Riverside Campus; or (b) fulfill graduation requirements in one UCR catalog applicable during any of the previous four years in which the student successfully completed at least one quarter or one semester of full-time college-level work, regardless of where matriculated. Upon applying for candidacy, the student must specify the applicable catalog. (En 5 November 87)

For their part, members of CEP interpret this regulation, especially its last sentence, as affecting catalog rights that pertain to graduate requirements and not necessarily to other aspects of program participation, including change of major requirements. Members of the committee recognize that this may reflect a gap in our policy documents: pending the evaluation of the Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction, we may have a policy governing graduation, but not other aspects of undergraduate program participation. A number of members of CEP felt it would be useful to

amend R6.12 or develop another regulation aimed at defining policy on change of major catalog rights.

### **Process for approving change of major requests**

CEP was specifically asked whether its approval of change of major criteria “is contingent upon the implementation process.” The answer to this specific question is that it has not been a major consideration for CEP.

CEP tends to focus on the academic justification for proposals as well as their institutional soundness. For example, the committee has, in the last several years, found itself regularly considering requests from programs asking to limit their undergraduate participants to students who are maintaining overall or major course grade point averages that exceed the standard 2.00 definition of a GPA in good standing at the University of California. The committee interprets requests seeking variance from the 2.00 GPA to be inconsistent with university policy.

One CEP member opined that approval of major change criteria requests appear not to be contingent on an implementation plan, “but maybe it should be.” However, CEP has left the specific process of implementation to the requesting departments and Colleges/Schools.

-----Original Message-----

From: Kambiz Vafai [<mailto:vafai@engr.ucr.edu>]

Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 3:22 PM

To: Sellyna Ehlers

Subject: Interpretation of Catalog Rights

Dear Sellyna:

Before passing an opinion, R&J committee would like to know what Ed. Pol.'s understanding is when they vote to approve such a matter. For example, R&J committee would like to know if Ed. Pol.'s approval of such changes is contingent upon the implementation process.

Thank you.

Kambiz

On Mar 2, 2012, at 1:50 PM, Sellyna Ehlers wrote:

> Please see the email below from the Registrar. Your interpretation would be highly appreciated in a formal memo to Bracken.

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> S

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> From: Bracken Janette Dailey

> Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2012 3:38 PM

> To: Sellyna Ehlers

> Subject: Interpretation of Catalog Rights

>

> Sellyna

>

> I have received a question regarding Catalog Rights and I feel that I need the Senate interpretation Regulation R6.12. I would like to request Rules and Jurisdiction to consider this question.

>

> The question pertains to change of major requirements for continuing students. If a department is approved to change their entrance requirement(s) (for example, raising the GPA requirement for admission to a major), do students have catalog rights allowing them to be considered for the major under the old requirements (for example, lower GPA) or must they meet the new requirement(s) (for example, the new higher GPA).

>

> It is my interpretation that Catalog Rights specifically pertain to graduation requirements and that graduation requirements do not include admission requirements. However, since this is a Senate Regulations I would appreciate the interpretation by the Senate.

>

> Thank you for your time.

>

> Bracken

>  
> <image001.png>  
> Bracken Dailey | Registrar  
> 900 University Avenue  
> 2249 Student Services Building | Riverside, CA 92521-0118  
> Office: 951.827.3427 | Fax: 951.827.7368  
> E-mail: [Bracken.Dailey@ucr.edu](mailto:Bracken.Dailey@ucr.edu) | Web: [Registrar.ucr.edu](http://Registrar.ucr.edu)  
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