

Date: 1/7/16

To: Jose Wudka, Chair Academic Senate

Fr: Joseph Childers, Chair, Committee on Change Management, Banner Implementation

Re: Modification of R.7.4.2 to increase maximum repeat units from 16 to 19.

**Proposal: modify R.7.4.2 to allow a maximum of 19 repeat units from the current 16.**

The original intent of R.7.4.2 was to allow students to repeat a maximum of 4 courses of 4 units each, which corresponded to the great majority of courses at UCR at the time the regulation was adopted. The wording refers to units (and not courses) in part to conform with systemwide regulations (SR780.C.4), but also to include a measure of the workload that the student can repeat.

Since the time R.7.4.2 was adopted the number of 5 unit courses has grown considerably, with the result that the campus adopted the practice of “splitting units” (for example a student could repeat 4 courses of 5 units each, but for the last one only one unit would be removed from the GPA, the other 4 units would be averaged). Aside from the practical complications associated with implementing this process, it is both confusing to students, and is not aligned with the original intent of the regulation.

There is no perfect way to take into account the added workload in 5 unit courses within the intent of R.7.4.2 (for example, allowing repetition of 4 courses of 5 units -- 20 total repeat units, would also allow repetition of 5 courses of 4 units each).

The Committee on Change Management for the implementation of the new BANNER SIS (which includes, the Bracken Dailey, Registrar, Jose Beruvides, Student Affairs Manager for CHASS, the Chinya Ravishankar, Associate Dean of BCOE, Joseph Childers, Dean of the Graduate Division, and two at-large members of the Academic Senate—Daphne Fairbairn and Miriam Lam) has concluded that the best compromise is to allow a maximum of 19 repeat units and avoid the confusing and cumbersome process of unit splitting. While this does exclude the case of 4 courses of 5 units each, it does cover the vast majority of cases and remains within the intent of the existing regulations. Our research indicates that this is a solution that some campuses within the UC system have adopted. Furthermore, the transfer from the current SIS system to BANNER presents an opportunity to implement this change.

It is important to note that under the new BANNER system, splitting will no longer be possible, and should the Academic Senate desire to retain the current policy, students who wish to repeat a course that would put them over the current 16 unit limit would get no new GPA credit for that repeated course. For example, a student who had repeated 13 units for GPA improvement would be precluded from repeating a four or five-unit course for new GPA credits, since it would put the student above the 16 unit threshold.

UC Review

UNDER – these campuses will stop below 16 units – UCLA, UCSB, UCSC, and UCM

OVER – these campuses allow one course to cross over the 16 units – UCSD and UCD

SPLIT – these campuses split courses to be exact to 16 units – UCI and UCB (UCB is looking to implement a change and will be considering moving to UNDER)

UCSF does not have a repeat policy.