



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

May 18, 1992

TO: Karen Hitchcock
Vice President for Academic Affairs

I have approved the following Senate bills and am forwarding them to you for implementation or other action as appropriate.

Senate Bill No. 9192-09: Faculty-initiated Major in Human Biology

Senate Bill No. 9192-10: Revision to Policy on Credit Limit

Senate Bill No. 9192-11: Policy to Deregister Students who Fail to Attend Classes

H. Patrick Swygert
President



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

May 18, 1992

TO: Edward C. Turner
Chair, University Senate

In accordance with your memorandum of April 14, 1992, I am pleased to indicate my approval of the following Senate bills.

Senate Bill No. 9192-05: Revision to Policy on Advising of Graduate Students

Senate Bill No. 9192-06: Revision to Policy on English Language Proficiency of International Graduate Students

Senate Bill No. 9192-09: Faculty-initiated Major in Human Biology

Senate Bill No. 9192-10: Revision to Policy on Credit Limit

Senate Bill No. 9192-11: Policy to Deregister Students who Fail to Attend Classes

H. Patrick Swygert
President



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

May 12, 1992

RECEIVED

MAY 15 1992

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: H. Patrick Swygert
President

FROM: Karen Hitchcock *KRH*
Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Senate Bills 9192-05, -06, -09, -10, -11

Thank you for the opportunity to react to the five bills passed at the last meeting of the University Senate prior to your final consideration of them.

Senate Bill 9192-05: This bill has the effect of significantly simplifying procedures for graduate students to drop and add courses. In addition, it facilitates the implementation of the proposed voice-response telephone registration system. I recommend approval of the bill.

Senate Bill 9192-06: I would strongly recommend approval of this bill. By requiring that department chairs certify the English competence of international teaching assistants, the bill provides an additional degree of accountability that responds to the last Middle States' report and addresses a serious concern of the Office of Undergraduate Studies. We will, however, need to remain attentive to the issue of the English-language proficiency of teaching assistants and to the possibility of further action if necessary.

Senate Bill 9192-09: The Human Biology Program is one of our fastest growing undergraduate majors. The proposal to change its degree from a B.A. to a B.S. is justified by the extent of its science and mathematics component. Other proposed changes are necessitated by changes in the course offerings of Biology and Anthropology. I recommend approval of the proposal.

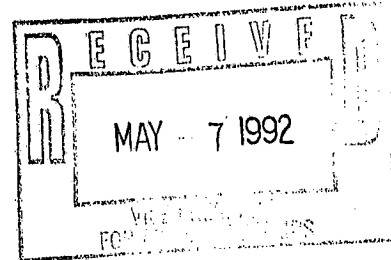
Senate Bill 9192-10: This bill was brought to the Undergraduate Academic Council by the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Its purpose was to ask for Senate consideration and approval of a procedure that had become accepted practice under previous Deans for reasons stated in the bill's rationale. Now, much more than before, resource constraints argue for policies that discourage the practice of "banking courses" for whatever reasons. I recommend approval of this bill.

Senate Bill 9192-11: This bill was taken to UAC by the Dean of Undergraduate Studies on behalf of several departments which report serious problems with "ghost students." Before submitting the proposed bill, the Dean consulted with Stony Brook and Binghamton, which have similar policies. As was clear from the debate at the Senate, this policy represents a significant departure from prior practice. Postponing implementation until the Spring of 1993 is well justified, as is the request that the Dean of Undergraduate Studies make a concerted effort in the coming fall to advertise the policy as prominently and as widely as possible. I would recommend approving the bill, but with the provision that the Undergraduate Academic Council review and evaluate its application no later than the Spring of 1994.

KRH:pjs
2581u



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



May 7, 1992

TO: Karen Hitchcock
Vice President for Academic Affairs

The following Senate bills have been submitted to me for approval. Prior to my approving the bills, I would appreciate your advice. Thank you.

Senate Bill No. 9192-05: Revision to Policy on Advising of Graduate Students

Senate Bill No. 9192-06: Revision to Policy on English Language Proficiency of International Graduate Students

Senate Bill No. 9192-09: Faculty-initiated Major in Human Biology

Senate Bill No. 9192-10: Revision to Policy on Credit Limit

Senate Bill No. 9192-11: Policy to Deregister Students who Fail to Attend Classes

H. Patrick Swygert
President



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

TO: H. Patrick Swygert
President

FROM: Edward C. Turner
Chair

DATE: May 7, 1992

In accordance with Senate procedures, I am submitting the following bills to you for approval. The bills were approved at the May 4, 1992, University Senate meeting.

Senate Bill No. 9192-05: Revision to Policy on Advising of Graduate Students

Senate Bill No. 9192-06: Revision to Policy on English Language Proficiency of International Graduate Students

Senate Bill No. 9192-09: Faculty-initiated Major in Human Biology

Senate Bill No. 9192-10: Revision to Policy on Credit Limit

Senate Bill No. 9192-11: Policy to Deregister Students who Fail to Attend Classes

UNIVERSITY SENATE
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Introduced by: Undergraduate Academic Council

Date: April 28, 1992

REVISION TO POLICY ON CREDIT LIMIT

IT IS HEREBY PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE ADOPTED:

- I. Undergraduate students may not register for more than 19 credits exclusive of one hundred and two hundred level physical education courses without permission of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. This limit extends the restriction through the Program Adjustment period.
- II. That this bill be forwarded to the President for approval.

RATIONALE:

The current policy reads as follows:

No undergraduate student may early register for more than 19 credits exclusive of one hundred and two hundred level physical education courses. (University Senate, 4/1/74)

The proposed policy change would extend the restriction through the program adjustment period, allowing for waivers at the discretion of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

1. The rationale for the original policy reflected concern over students "banking" courses: registering for more than 6 courses, attending the first few sessions, and then dropping 1 or more that appear undesirable. While the original policy inhibits this practice during early registration, it allows "banking" during the program adjustment period. Extending the prohibition through the program adjustment period would give the Dean's Office the opportunity to confirm that students have sound academic reasons for taking more than 19 credits.
2. There is ample evidence that the academic standing of many students may be significantly worsened by attempts to complete large numbers of credits. The proposed restriction would allow the Dean's Office to consider the student's overall record in making a judgment with regard to the advisability of allowing a registration in excess of 19 credits.
3. In the current resource climate, the case for the 19+ restriction during early registration, if not also for the program adjustment period, is strengthened by issues of equity: students should be prevented from registering for an unusually number of credits (without compelling academic reasons or with little intent or likelihood of completing them) when other students who need the same courses and who are not "over-enrolled" may be closed out from them.