MEMO

DATE: October 2, 2018

FROM: Deborah Won, Chair
Student Policy Committee

TO: Veena Prabhu, Chair
Academic Senate

CC: N. Wada-McKee, SPC Members

SUBJECT: Policy Modification: Early Registration Policy

At its meeting of October 2, 2018, the Student Policy Committee (SPC) reviewed and approved the request for Early Registration for the Office for Students with Disabilities Service Providers (Notetakers).

The committee is in agreement with the following justifications and data attached:

a. Note-taking is an accommodation that has been approved by the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended in 2008. Service providers (Notetakers) deliver a vital service to the University by helping to fulfill accommodation requests submitted by students with disabilities. The notetaking service creates greater opportunity for OSD students to persist and graduate. Currently there are approximately 500 students registered with OSD who have been prescribed the note-taking accommodation.

b. Notetakers provide direct services to students registered with OSD, who are themselves on the list of groups to whom our campus is mandated by state or federal policy to offer Priority Registration. Notetakers share their lecture notes with students with disabilities. The supplemental notes that they provide helps support their learning and place them on a level playing field to their non-disabled peers.

c. Coordination of notetaking services and assignment of notetakers is hindered when notetakers cannot enroll in their classes during the same registration window as the OSD students. Priority registration for notetakers will allow them to prepare schedules simultaneously with OSD students. This will allow the OSD online system to match notetakers with OSD students and help reduce their anxiety caused by the uncertainty of whether a notetaker has been confirmed. In alignment with the student success area of the university’s strategic plan, notetakers are contributing to the campus community and to the academic success of students with disabilities while at the same time improving their own note-taking skills.

The following is our recommended modification:

Line 27: Include OSD Service Providers in priority registration for early registration.
Early Registration Policy

PRINCIPLE

The goal of Early registration for students is to enhance the University’s ability to attract, retain, and graduate specific groups or cohorts of students in a timely manner. Such student groups or cohorts typically participate in activities in which students represent the University in an official capacity, provide vital services to the university, need Early registration in compliance with State or Federal Policy, or are granted early registration by the University. In order to promote student participation in such activities and accommodate State and Federal Policies, the University shall allow approved groups to register in advance of the regular registration period.

DEFINITIONS

Registration in advance of the regular registration period consists of two types of Early registration. Students approved for registration on the first day of registration are granted Priority registration (in compliance with State or Federal Policy or as granted by the University). Students approved for registration at the beginning of their assigned registration period are granted Early registration (for participating in activities in which students represent the university in an official capacity or provide vital services to the university).

POLICY

The following student groups or cohorts are granted Priority registration in compliance with State or Federal Policy or as granted by the University:

1. Students registered with the Office for Students with Disabilities*
2. Members of the military, national guard, veterans and their dependents*
3. Students who are former foster youth and/or wards of the state*
4. Students in EOP in their first year and in their second fall term*
5. Elected officers of the Associated Students Inc. (ASI)
6. Student athletes
7. Students in the Honors College
8. OFFICE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SERVICE PROVIDERS (NOTETAKERS)

*In compliance with State or Federal Policy. Note Title V policy for EOP students only mandates early registration in the first year.

Other student groups or cohorts may only apply for Early registration status. The program advisor or administrator must submit a request to the Student Policy Committee of the Academic Senate. The Committee reviews requests from groups seeking Early registration and sets review eligibility timelines for these additional groups. The committee makes recommendations to the Vice President for Student Life and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (“Provost”) who acts in coordination with the Registrar. Upon approval of Early registration:
1. Notification is sent from the Vice President for Student Life and the Provost to the Registrar.
2. The list of students eligible for Priority or Early registration is documented by the appropriate department or program administrator, and the list is submitted to the Registrar a minimum of one month prior to the start of the next term’s registration period.
3. Students on this documented list are allowed to register during the designated period prior to the start of the regular registration period.
4. Priority or Early registration begins with the students’ second term of full-time study.
5. The Registrar shall provide an annual report to the Student Policy Committee on the number of student groups and students who are eligible for and who have utilized Priority or Early registration. This data will be used to help determine continued authorization of a group’s eligibility for Early registration.
6. The committee will consult with a group’s advisor or administrator before discontinuing its Early registration authorization.
7. Additional requests for Early registration are to be reviewed annually by the Student Policy Committee.
8. The Vice President for Student Life and the Provost will provide a report to the Enrollment Management Implementation Team on an annual basis.