ASSESSING IMPACTS: Proposal to Change Class Standing Definitions (as of 5-15-2014)

A change to the class standing definitions based on accumulated credits earned is being proposed. The following are potential impacts (systemwide and campus specific) that were raised by various constituents.

**PROPOSAL:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>0 – 24</td>
<td>0 – 29.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>25 – 54</td>
<td>30 – 59.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>55 – 88</td>
<td>60 – 89.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>89 or more</td>
<td>90 or more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AREAS FOR POSSIBLE IMPACT:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admission</td>
<td>• No proposed change to admission of transfer students; it will remain at 24 credits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Some Colleges/Programs will need to revisit admissions criteria if credits or class standing is required for admission.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o UHM: Business (8 majors) non-freshman admits require “55 credits of college-level work (junior standing)”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o UHM: Education applicants can “be admitted to the COE before completing 55 credits, but must complete 55 credits prior to being admitted to a specific COE Licensure Track program”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o UHH: College of Business and Economics (3 majors) require 50 credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Advising

- UHM would need to review the Focus requirements pro-rataion for internal (UH System) and external transfer students. Example for internal UH transfer students below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of accepted credit hours</th>
<th>WI</th>
<th>HAP</th>
<th>Ethics</th>
<th>Oral</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-54</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-88</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 Ethics or 1 Oral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Align academic advising maps to be at least 30 credits each year (some are less due to labs and other requirements)
- Campuses will need to review impact to internships that require a certain class standing.
- Possible impact to student self-perception for those who identify with their class standing.

Athletics

- Division I (UHM) and Division II (UHH): academic and athletic classifications are different, so no impact. Discussed with Amanda Paterson (UHM) and Dave Kaneshiro (UHH)
- Eligibility is based on GPA and other factors, not academic class standing.

Banner

- Banner would need to know of the change in advance of setting up registration for the effective term. All campuses must use the same credits to define class standing.

Curriculum

- Prerequisites or co-requisites would need to be reviewed by the campuses. Some courses require students to be a min class standing to enroll, e.g. Accounting 201 requires soph standing at UHM.
  - In Banner, the following number of courses specify or exclude a specific level the student must be to enroll in the course: HIL (211 classes) and MAN (442 classes) have biggest impact, KAP has one class, MAU has one class and WOA has 9 classes.
  - There are also a few courses that state a level in the course title, but do not have a level restriction tied to the course (e.g., course titled Senior Seminar or Senior Thesis does not have a senior only prereq, but may have other prereqs).
- Campuses should check current articulation agreements to see if there is any impact.
| Financial Aid | Class standing determines how much a student can borrow for direct loans. Would need to know prior to packaging awards.  
  |• Freshman eligible to borrow $3,500, sophomore $4,500, and junior/senior $5,500.  
  |• May affect progression rate numbers that are part of IPEDS reporting such that a whole bunch of freshmen that would have normally progressed to soph standing will remain at freshman standing  
  |• Campuses will need to review the impact to scholarships that require a specific number of credits or a specific class standing.  
| Housing | Priority placement based on class standing for UH related to eligibility to live in apartment complex  
  |• Must have earned 24 credits or more to qualify to live in apartments. If increased to 30 credits, some students will not have the option of applying to live in apartments during second year of college (not seen as a bad thing by UH)  
  |• UHM reported not seeing any housing impacts with the change in definitions  
| IRAO | Will need to update future reports. For IPEDS and other reporting, will not go backwards, but will footnote the change in class standing. Comparison data may be off if solely using class standing and not actual credits.  
| Parking | Priority for purchase based on class standing?  
  |• No affect at UHM, student parking permits are reserved based on completion of class registration  
| Registration; Records | Registration priority times (time ticketing) are based on credits earned  
  |• Academic actions should be review by each campus (varies campus to campus). For example, a UHM student may be suspended when fail to get cum GPA of 1.7 after attempting 24 credits or when fail to meet terms of probation. Note: if UHM considers changing the number of credits for academic standing (good standing, probation, suspension, etc.), athletics would like to be consulted because this would have an impact on their side.  
  |• Dean’s List requirements should be reviewed. For example, UHM requires earning at least 12 credits for letter grade in a semester to be eligible.  
| STAR | Per Gary, no impact to STAR but they should be notified of the change.
| Student Life As of 04-30-14 | • Cohort bonding – you fall behind classmates you use as a support system  

• Clubs & Organizations, especially honor societies may require certain credits earned plus GPA  
  o Clubs: As long you are a student taking 3 credits, but may need slight amendment to club policies  
  o PTK/honors: Leeward (specific and required class)  
  o May have a little effect; slight transition for those already active in orgs.  

• Student Governments with class representatives/senators will need to be aware of changes as freshman, soph, junior, and senior reps and will need more credits to qualify to run for that class rep (soph, junior, senior)  

| Summer Classes | • Consider making summer the same tuition as regular terms (fall/spring) for students who must attend summer to make up or attain 15 credits/semester or 30 credits/year  

| VA | • Students with VA benefits don’t have to declare a major before junior year. If freshman or soph with VA hasn’t declared major, campus reports student’s program as “Bachelor (undeclared)” and student cannot be certified beyond soph year unless major is declared. Only GenEd courses can be certified prior to declaration of major. Students at UHH, UHM, and UHWO would need to earn 5 additional credits prior to being required to declare a major (UHM)  
  o This is initially a benefit to VA students.  

| Other Items | • UH Student Caucus adopted Resolution 03-14, In Support of Updating Credits That Define Class Standing at the University of Hawai‘i, on February 22, 2014.  

• VC Admin at UHH, UHWO and KAP and Director of Campus Services at UHM were contacted to see if there were any additional facilities related items to take into consideration. All replied, there were none. |