University of Hawai'i Student Caucus

March 31, 2014

Council of Chief Academic Officers

Dear Council of Chief Academic Officers,

This is to inform you that Resolution 03-14, In Support Of Updating Credits That Define Class Standing At The University Of Hawai'i, was adopted by the University of Hawai'i Student Caucus at its meeting on Saturday, February 22, 2014.

A copy is attached for your information and appropriate distribution to your members, as directed by the Resolution. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard Mizusawa, Chalrperson

University of Hawai'i Student Caucus

University of Hawaii Student Caucus

RESOLUTION 03-14

IN SUPPORT OF UPDATING CREDITS THAT DEFINE CLASS STANDING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Whereas, the University of Hawai'i Student Caucus (UHSC), composed of representatives from each of the 10 UH System campuses, advocates collectively for the interests and needs of students throughout the University of Hawai'i (UH) System; and

Whereas, at UH, class standing is a traditional designation used to define a student's progress toward their graduation goal; and

Whereas, undergraduate students are classified according to the number of credits earned (institutional and transfer credits); and

Whereas, class standing is used for university purposes, such as registration, prerequisites, housing/parking priority, federal financial aid award limits, and other uses; and

Whereas, the UH Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost (EVPAA/P) presented a proposal to update credits that define class standing at UH; and

Whereas, the proposal to update the number of credits that define the class standing levels will provide students with a more accurate indicator of the progress they are making toward their degree, which makes the credit count per class standing consistent; and

Whereas, the current proposal is: Freshman: 0-29 credits, Sophomore: 30-59 credits, Junior: 60-89 credits, and Senior: 90 credits or more; and

Whereas, while the current credit count for full-time status is 12 credits, associates or bachelor's degrees require at least 60 credits or 120 credits, respectively, so students should take an average of 15 credits per semester or 30 credits per year to complete degree requirements on-time (two or four years); and

Whereas, this proposal goes in line with the UH "15 to Finish" campaign, which encourages students to take 15 credits per semester to increase the amount of students graduating on time; and

Be it resolved, the UHSC supports the proposal to update credits that define class standing at UH, presented to our body at the January 2014 UHSC Meeting at the Hawaii Community College campus; and

Be it further resolved, the UHSC encourages the UH System to convene a system-wide consultation team to outline the impacts and solutions of the proposal and include student representation from the UHSC; and

Be it further resolved, the UHSC encourages the UH System to distribute the proposal to various representative bodies within the UH System to solicit additional feedback, including but not limited to campus student governments; and

Therefore, be it finally resolved, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair John Holzman and Members, Interim President David Lassner, Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost Joanne Itano, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Joanne Itano, Associate Vice President for External Affairs and University Relations Lynne Waters, Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Jan Javinar, Susan Nishida, Council of Chancellors Members, Council of Chief Academic Officers Members, and All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs Co-Chairs Susan Dik, Susan Motoba Adler and Members.

Presented to the University of Hawaii Student Caucus for approval on February 22, 2014. Approved by the University of Hawaii Student Caucus on February 22, 2014 unanimously.

Richard Mizusawa, Chairperson

University of Hawaii Student Caucus