FAQ on Change of GPA due to Change in Major Policy

1. I have a student who changed majors during summer 2011. Is that student eligible for the new GPA change when students change a major?

   Yes. The change of GPA due to Change in Major Policy was voted in by the UCRC during the Spring, 2011 semester, and was intended to be implemented immediately. There was a delay in starting it due to the need of more fully developing the implementation process.

2. I have a student who changed majors during spring 2011, and was not eligible. The student wants to change back to the original major, and then back to the new major. Is this permissible?

   This was not the intention of the UCRC passing this policy. The change in GPA due to major change has always been in effect, but the implementation of that change occurred just prior to graduation. It was the felt that we would help students implementing this GPA change just after the change in major. There is a provision that says if a student in the future wants to go back to the original major, then the courses that were excluded from the GPA calculation will be put back.

3. I see under the directions for the Course Exclusion Form, item 6, that all repetitions of a course will be excluded. Does this mean that, for example, if a student took and failed MATH 111 three times and then finally passed it, all 4 repetitions will be excluded, or can we use the MATH 111 as a GUR?

   If you are going to exclude a course using the course exclusion form, then all repetitions of the course will be excluded, and all repetitions should be written in the Course Exclusion Form. If a student passed the course, and the course can be used in the new program, then the grade replacement policy would come into effect. In this case, you would not use the Course Exclusion Form.

4. Can Ws be excluded? When a student has Ws he or she is always on the brink with the Satisfactory Academic Progress. If we can get the Ws out the student will have a more favorable ratio of credits attempted to credits earned.

   This policy deals with only GPA changes due to a major change. Since W’s don’t affect the GPA, they would not be part of the Course Exclusion Form.
5. I have a student who has courses that will be excluded, but received an A in a course that is not part of the new program. Can we keep the A grade?

   The only way a course would not appear on the Course Exclusion Form is if that course was part of the new program, either a required course (i.e. Hum 101), could be used for a tech elective or a free elective, or the new program advisor felt it was an equivalent with a course in the new program. Otherwise, the course, despite the grade, would need to be excluded?

6. You have a statement in the new procedures that states “When eliminating courses, care should be taken if this will affect financial aid, ROTC or NCAA regulations governing Standard Academic Progress”. What does this mean?

   When you are excluding course using the Course Exclusion Form, it will reduce the number of courses taken in previous semesters. This could affect the academic progress of the student, and therefore impact financial aid, ROTC or Athletics. You should ask the student to talk to the appropriate individual in these three areas if it is appropriate, before sending in the Course Exclusion Form.

7. Should I fill out the Course Exclusion Form before sending in the Change of Major form to the Registrar?

   If you want to do a preliminary, unofficial review of the impact on the student’s GPA, you can fill out the Course Exclusion Form. However, you need to wait until you get back the Change of Major form from the Registrar before sending the Course Exclusion Form to the Registrar.