The University Graduate Council met on March 14th, 2011, and, as a component of that meeting, discussed the proposed changes to the Repeat Course Policy.

There was consensus that the current repeat course policy is flawed. There were no strong arguments against the proposed changes. Primary concerns that the UGC recommends for consideration when adopting the new policy:

1) Assurance that the transcript reflects the course(s) repeated and number of times an individual course was repeated. UGC members gave assurance that admissions committees would be able to assess graduate and professional school applicants as long as this was transparent on transcripts.

2) Assessment of policies that could be implemented that would limit the potential of a financial bias for a student’s ability to repeat a course. There is a concern that this policy may be more accessible to students with greater financial resources.

3) Consideration of enrollment priority for students repeating a course vs. students enrolling for the first time. It would be expected that students repeating a course may have a higher priority for enrollment given a more advanced rank (e.g., junior or senior rank vs. sophomore rank). Evaluation of an equitable system to prevent over-valuing of rank when a course is being repeated is recommended.

4) There is concern that this policy will contribute to grade inflation. Evaluation of this potential outcome and its implications are recommended.