

Opinion # 2
The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA)
of the 2007- 2008 Session
[November 28th, 2007]

*Be it Enacted by the Association, having been considered by the
Committee on Academic Affairs, a*
JOINT OPINION with the
Council of Commonwealth Student Governments

Administrative Council on Undergraduate Education
Policy Adherence by Colleges

(Decided: Unanimously)

Nature of the Problem:

The role of the academic advising program at the university is to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote intellectual discovery, to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities, and to become self-directed learners and decision makers. Semester-by-semester plans reveal in table form the courses students should schedule each semester as they pursue a particular academic degree and these plans serve several purposes within the University and assist multiple constituencies: students, advisers, departments, deans, registrars, admissions officers, and family members in their pursuit to properly map out a students' academic career and help them maintain normal academic progress.

Each college is required to create these semester-by-semester plans for each degree program offered by their college with a completion deadline of the end of semester Fall 2007 by the Administrative Council on Undergraduate Education (ACUE). These plans are to follow a specific format in order to become uniform, and are to complete the following objectives:

1. Identify normal progress
2. Identify course offerings needed and reveal course sequencing
3. Assist students and advisers in planning students' schedules both short-term and long-range
4. Assist registrars and departments in planning course offerings
5. Assist registrars and deans in determining when students ought to change campus
6. Help prospective students and their families to anticipate the academic workload and courses needed to earn a degree
7. Help students to anticipate when courses are offered in order to schedule prerequisites and courses appropriately
8. Serve as tools to help advisers learn the curriculum

The semester-by-semester plans play a significant role in improving the dissemination of advising knowledge for students during their academic career, and help advisers at the University Park and commonwealth campuses accurately advise students and help them maintain normal academic progress.

This Opinion in conjunction with Resolution # 2008-06 of the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments serves to remind Colleges who have not already complied with the ACUE Policy to expedite their College’s implementation as these course outlines are critical for students to navigate their curriculum requirements.

Recommended Course of Action:

The UPUA requests that colleges complete these semester-by-semester plans in accordance with the deadline set by the ACUE in order to increase the flow of advising information for students at University Park.

The UPUA President or her delegate will forward this request to the Deans of the Colleges, and all other appropriate parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Academic Affairs Committee

Committee Vote: 9/0/0

Chair Signature: Katelyn Holmes

Signature of a UPUA officer:

Hillary Lewis

President Hillary Lewis
The University Park Undergraduate Association