Regarding Concurrent Enrollment for UCLA students

July 21, 2016

Dear HSSEAS Students:

The Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science (HSSEAS) does not permit continuing HSSEAS students to enroll in courses toward degree completion through UCLA Extension’s Concurrent Enrollment program. There are no exceptions to this policy.

The basic premise of the Open Doors/Concurrent Enrollment program is described at the URL http://www.uclaextension.edu/pages/str/howtoEnroll.jsp. As can be read at that URL, Open Doors/Concurrent Enrollment is process through which “non-UCLA” students may attend daytime classes at UCLA.

The purpose of Concurrent Enrollment is to provide an opportunity for members of the Los Angeles community to access lifelong learning. It is not meant for progress towards a degree. In fact, for participation in Concurrent Enrollment, HSSEAS “requires students to present proof of a bachelor of science degree in engineering, physics, chemistry, or mathematics” to avoid any confusion about whether Concurrent Enrollment coursework is applicable for a UCLA degree for HSSEAS students.

The central issue with Concurrent Enrollment is that the fees are not appropriate for our regular students. Regular students pay a variety of fees as described at the registrar’s website http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Fees-Residence/Overview. Each fee pays for a certain service or opportunity available to regularly enrolled students. In contrast, concurrent enrollment students pay by the course. This is not an appropriate fee structure for our regular students during any quarter of their enrollment, including the final quarter. For the case of nonresident students in particular, there is no legitimate reason to exempt the student from all nonresident fees in their final quarter.

There are other problems with regular students using concurrent enrollment including late drop policies inconsistent with HSSEAS and the fact that many HSSEAS classes are not available for concurrent enrollment. Exactly which classes will be available for concurrent enrollment is only known after the quarter begins.

Certainly, finding funds for a UCLA education can be challenging. Let me mention some opportunities for students. There are over one hundred scholarships available for continuing HSSEAS students at the URL http://www.seasoasa.ucla.edu/scholarships-for-undergraduates/. HSSEAS students enrolled in fewer than ten units in their final quarter may apply for a 50% fee reduction by filing a petition at Boelter 6426. Also, students facing severe financial difficulty can contact the Economic Crisis Response team at http://www.studentincrisis.ucla.edu/Economic-Crisis-Response.

In summary, I understand that students are looking for any possible way to lower their educational costs. Unfortunately, the Concurrent Enrollment process is not an acceptable means to that end for students seeking a degree from UCLA HSSEAS.

Warm Regards,

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