MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate

FROM: Senate Committee on
Academic Planning

SUBJECT: Registration Priority
Number (RPN)

DATE: Mar. 9th, 1989

In a recent report approved by Senate and the Board, The Task Force on University Size recommended that "SCUS shall be directed to recommend to Senate a definition of RPN which better reflects the overall intention that academic achievement will be the primary criterion for restriction to (courses)".

In accordance with the directive from the Task Force, SCUS, on Feb. 14th, 1989, and later SCAP, on March 8th, 1989, approved the proposal for a new definition of RPN for undergraduate students.

MOTION:

"That Senate approve, and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, the proposal for a new definition of RPN, as outlined in the attached paper, S.89-16 ."

PROPOSAL
FOR A NEW DEFINITION OF REGISTRATION PRIORITY NUMBER
FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The new RPN will continue to be a function of cumulative credit hours (H), and cumulative grade point average (CGPA). Its behavior with respect to these two variables is illustrated in the table shown below.

REGISTRATION PRIORITY NUMBER

HOURS	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.50	4.00	RPN RANGE
0	0.00	7.50	15.00	22.50	30.00	30.00
10	10.00	17.08	24.17	31.25	38.33	28.33
20	20.00	26.67	33.33	40.00	46.67	26.67
30	30.00	36.25	42.50	48.75	55.00	25.00
40	40.00	45.83	51.67	57.50	63.33	23.33
50	50.00	55.42	60.83	66.25	71.67	21.67
60	60.00	65.00	70.00	75.00	80.00	20.00
70	70.00	74.58	79.17	83.75	88.33	18.33
80	80.00	84.17	88.33	92.50	96.67	16.67
90	90.00	93.75	97.50	101.25	105.00	15.00
100	100.00	103.33	106.67	110.00	113.33	13.33
110	110.00	112.92	115.83	118.75	121.67	11.67
120	120.00	122.50	125.00	127.50	130.00	10.00

GRADE POINT AVERAGE is the column heading spanning 2.00 through 4.00.

Properties of the new RPN

(a) The RPN is the sum of two terms. The first term is equal to the total number of credit hours (H) accumulated by an undergraduate student and represents seniority. H is the sum of transfer credit hours, SFU hours passed, and SFU hours in progress.

The second term is proportional to that portion of CGPA in excess of 2.00. The second part also depends on H as shown in the table above and as described below.

(b) For students with a C average (CGPA=2.00) or less, the RPN is simply equal to H

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(c)   For small values of H, the second term provides the equivalent of one year's seniority for high values of CGPA. For example, an incoming B.C. Grade XII student with zero hours and an A average (GPA=4.00) will have an RPN of 30.00 whereas a continuing student with three hours and a CGPA of 2.00 will have an RPN of 3.00. This will mean that for most students in introductory courses, priority will be determined primarily by CGPA, and to a lesser extent by credit hours. Scholarship students with high entrance GPA's will have priority over continuing students with small values of H and low CGPA.

(d)   As H increases, the contribution to RPN due to CGPA will decrease. For example, at 120 hours an A average student will have a 10 hour RPN advantage over a C average student. For students in senior years, priority in upper division courses will be determined primarily by credit hours, and to a much lesser extent, by CGPA.

The new RPN formula would apply to specific groups of students as follows:

Continuing Students

    H = transfer hours + SFU hours passed + SFU hours in progress.
            (The maximum value for H is 132)
    CGPA = Student's SFU CGPA. If a student has no CGPA, i.e. is in his/her
            first semester, then admission GPA will be used.

New Students Entering Directly From Secondary Schools

    H = 0
    CGPA = Student's admission GPA will be used. This GPA is expressed on a
            four point scale.

New Students Entering With Or Without Transfer Credit

    H = transfer hours only (if any)
    CGPA = Student's admission GPA (if any)

New And Continuing Students With Degrees Who Are Entering One Of Post-Baccalaureate Diploma , Further Bachelor's Degree, or PDP.

    H = 60 for further Bachelor's degree
    H = 90 for Post Baccalaureate Diploma
    CGPA = Student's admission GPA

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APPENDIX..........CURRENT FORMULA FOR REGISTRATION PRIORITY NUMBER

For reference, the RPN calculated for various values of H and CGPA using the current formula is illustrated in the table below.

CURRENT REGISTRATION PRIORITY NUMBER

HOURS	------- GRADE POINT AVERAGE----------					RPN RANGE
	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.50	4.00	
0		1.25	1.30	1.35	1.40	1.40
10	12.01	13.01	13.01	14.01	14.01	2.00
20	24.02	25.02	26.02	27.02	28.02	4.00
30	36.03	38.03	39.03	41.03	42.03	6.00
40	48.04	50.04	52.04	54.04	56.04	8.00
50	60.05	63.05	65.05	68.05	70.05	10.00
60	72.06	75.06	78.06	81.06	84.06	12.00
70	84.07	88.07	91.07	95.07	98.07	14.00
80	96.08	100.08	104.08	108.08	112.08	16.00
90	108.09	113.09	117.09	122.09	126.09	18.00
100	120.10	125.10	130.10	135.10	140.10	20.00
110	132.11	138.11	143.11	149.11	154.11	22.00
120	144.12	150.12	156.12	162.12	168.12	24.00

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