

AA: 008.2 1/15/81

To clarify each student's right to a guaranteed course of study leading to graduation once his or her degree program has been approved, the Faculty Senate urges that the policy statement on student programs in the 1981 catalog be strengthened and improved in all future editions. The questionable part of the present policy statement is the last paragraph of text on page 28 of the current catalog:

Once a student decides on a program of study the student should contact the academic advisor of that program or the department head for the requirements. Particular degree and curricular requirements of the various programs are frequently changed, therefore, current requirements should be obtained from the academic departments.

We feel this statement is needlessly obscure about the academic rights of students and conveys the unwelcome suggestion that program requirements may change at any time for anyone. It should be deleted and replaced with the following paragraph:

Once students decide on a program of study they should see the academic advisor of that program or the department head for advising. Students shall be entitled to follow the program requirements listed in the course catalog current when they file their undergraduate degree programs. These requirements may not be changed for such students so long as those degree programs are valid unless options that will not delay the students' graduation are made available.

Moreover, though this clarification of policy cannot appear in print until the next issue of the catalog is released, we urge that the university adopt it in principle now and put it into practice immediately.