

3/1/05

AR: 18
Title: **Recommending Improvements to Registration and the Course Schedule**
Stage: IN SESSION - 02/19/2005
Owner: Chris Kennedy
Modified: 2005-02-22

001: Whereas During registration students currently are given no indication as to the
002: approximate final size of the class.

003:

004: Whereas According to the Commission of 125 Report, "The quality of education the
005: Commission seeks for UT students can be achieved only if there is a direct and
006: meaningful engagement between students and professors," suggesting that class size
007: is an important component of educational quality. [1]

008:

009: Whereas The Class Information Pages system in UT Direct displays the official
010: course catalog description for classes in which a student is currently registered,
011: but these are not displayed on the Course Schedule's class descriptions.

012:

013: Whereas Computer Sciences senior Dan Brown has developed a course scheduling
014: system that displays a student's weekly class schedule, for the purpose of
015: assisting in registration. He has offered to share the source code with the UT
016: Administration as a resource for developing UT's own course scheduling system. [2]

017:

018: Whereas Computer Sciences senior Jon Lemon has developed a similar system. [3]

019:

020: Whereas Integrating the visual display of a student's schedule into the official
021: registration system would allow all students to benefit from the application and
022: would ease the process of registration.

023:

024: Whereas The Course Schedule currently separates classes into Lower Division, Upper
025: Division, and Graduate courses, and no navigation exists to allow students to
026: easily switch between these classifications within a given department.

027:

028: Whereas Student Government Two Year At-Large Representatives Elizabeth Brummett
029: and Chris Kennedy discussed these issues with the Office of the Registrar and
030: received a positive response to their suggestions. [4]

031:

032: Therefore Be It Resolved That The University of Texas Student Government
033: encourages the Administration to continue improving registration and course
034: scheduling in an efficient and timely manner, and shall work with the
035: Administration to ensure that this occurs.

036:

037: Be It Further Resolved That Student Government encourages the Office of the
038: Registrar to display classroom seating capacity in the Course Schedule to give
039: students some indication of the size of the class.

040:

041: Be It Further Resolved That Student Government encourages the Office of the
042: Registrar to develop a visual class schedule display for students as soon as the
043: programming resources are available.

044:

045: Be It Further Resolved That Student Government encourages the Office of the

046: Registrar to add navigation to the Course Schedule allowing students to quickly
047: switch between lower Division, Upper Division, and Graduate classes within a
048: Department.

049:

050: **Be It Further Resolved** That the University of Texas Student Government commends
051: the Office of the Registrar and the Administrator for the recent updates to the
052: online Course Schedule and registration.

053:

054:

Footnotes

1. Commission of 125 Final Report: Recommendation One, <http://www.utexas.edu/com125/final.html>
2. Course, <http://www.utacom.org/course/>
3. Scheduler, <http://www.jclemson.com/scheduler/>
4. Meeting with Linda Sondergrass, Assistant Registrar, February 8th, 2005

Comments

2005-02-22: Approved by Legislative Policy Committee

David Bradley conducted initial research into the subject of displaying class size in the course schedule, October 2004.

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