To: Undergraduate Council
From: Agnes DeFranco
Subj.: Degree Requirements
Date: September 28, 2007

While working on updating the undergraduate catalog, I have been meeting with a group of academic advisors to clarify certain issues. Attached, please see the five issues that the advisors can use some guidance.

Frank Kelley, Assistant Dean from the College of Business, and I would be glad to attend any subcommittee meetings or Council meetings to address any concerns. Please simply let us know.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.
Change Catalog language regarding using repeated courses as electives

Current Catalog Language:
Currently, there is no such language regarding repeated courses.

Proposed Catalog Language:
To add a statement in the catalog regarding the policy on repeated courses under "General Requirements for a Baccalaureate Degree" as Statement #2, immediately following the 120 hours requirement.

"A repeated course cannot be counted as elective credit towards satisfying the requirement for graduation or counted toward a minimum of 120 hours credit toward graduation, unless the course is identified in the catalog as repeatable. Repeatable courses, such as Special Problems or Selected Topics courses, are designed to be taken more than once for additional credits each time."

Rationale:
All advisors know that they cannot count a repeated course as an elective. For example, a degree requires at least a C+ in a certain course. A student took the course and made a D the first time. Therefore, to satisfy the degree requirement, the student took the same course a second time and made a B. So, the second grade (B) is used to satisfy degree requirements and the first grade (D), although it cannot be counted to satisfy degree requirements, it is counted in the calculation of the overall GPA.

However, the catalog does not state so and students often want repeated courses to be counted as elective hours. An added statement can help to clarify the requirements.