

Humboldt State University
University Senate

Resolution on

#XX-13/14-APC – [Date] – First Reading

Resolved: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the Provost that the attached policy regarding co-listed graduate/undergraduate courses (also known dual-listed or co-scheduled courses) be approved and implemented immediately; and be it further

Resolved: That the University Senate ensure that HSU’s current process of program review, *Program Review, Evaluation and Planning* (PREP), be updated so that the quality of all academic programs may be efficiently evaluated, and in particular graduate programs which allow co-listed courses may be assessed to ensure the rigor of their programs.

Rationale: Title V Section 40510 of the California Administrative Code of Regulations outlines the California State University requirements for a Master’s Degree program. Subsection (b) (2) states, “A minimum of thirty semester units of approved graduate work “ must be completed by all candidates. While subsection (b) (2) (B) states, “Not less that one-half of the units required for the degree shall be in courses organized primarily for graduate students.” Thus, graduate students may satisfy their degree requirements with up to half of their units from upper division undergraduate courses. Concerns have been raised whether co-listed courses should be counted as being primarily for graduate students or not, and which set of units (undergraduate or graduate) should those courses count toward. The co-listed courses described in this policy *will* count as graduate units if the student enrolls in the 500-600 level course and will count as undergraduate units if the student enrolls in the 300-400 level course. It is imperative that all relevant parties understand that the graduate and undergraduate courses which are co-listed are in fact two distinct courses with separate learning outcomes and assignments which happen to meet at the same time. Thus, the graduate level component is “organized primarily for graduate students” and should therefore count toward the graduate level component of a students units in their degree program.

As the curriculum of a program is the purview of the faculty within that program, and as those faculty are the content experts of that program on the HSU campus, whether a single course can simultaneously satisfy the learning outcomes specified for both the graduate and undergraduate components of the

course is wholly at the discretion of those program faculty. The efficacy of such courses are to be determined as part of the program review process known as PREP with external review, provided by a content expert, explicitly evaluating the quality of the graduate program, including the required courses.