HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution on uDirect Student Milestones

18-16/17-APC – March 7, 2017 - First Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate recommends to the Provost that each department/program be required to establish within u.direct a milestone course for each of their majors; and be it

RESOLVED: That students who do not successfully complete their milestone course before reaching a unit threshold, set by the department/program, will receive a "milestone hold" on their student account; and be it

RESOLVED: That (faculty) advisors will use the milestone hold as a mechanism to generate discussion on the significance of the milestone for student success and the implications for likely major success for students failing to meet the milestone.

RATIONALE: HSU will launch the u.direct degree planning software in Fall 2017. Faculty and professional advisors will be asked to use the software in advising students in registering for Spring 2018 courses, as well as long-term degree planning. The u.direct planning committee has asked the Senate to initiate common department/program level use of u.direct for supporting degree progression. This policy is an initial step in that direction. The APC notes that many departments and programs may already have a prerequisite course structure that supports the goals of this policy. In those cases, there is no need to create new milestone classes; rather, the department/program may use existing curricular structures to generate the u.direct mechanisms for milestone holds. In addition, department/program might select a milestone course outside the major when that course is essential to successful progression in the major. The APC recognizes that many advisors are already engaging in these types of conversations with their advisees. The APC anticipates that these milestone flags will serve to reinforce those conversations, as well as help facilitate those conversations where they are not already structured and/or happening.

TIMELINE: Given that advising with u.direct will begin in late October 2017, the u.direct committee should in Spring 2017 notify departments/programs about the need for selecting milestone courses and unit thresholds. The u.direct committee will work with the registrars office to set Fall 2017 deadlines and processes for incorporating milestone information into the u.direct system.