

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution on Decoupling Drop/Add from Census

#22-14/15-APC – 2/24/2015 – First Reading

Resolved: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that the date before which students may change their course schedule without penalty, known as the *Drop/Add* date, be decoupled from the *Census* date; and be it further

Resolved: That the Drop/Add date be moved to 11:59 PM on the Monday after the second week of classes of the regular semester term.

Rationale: The Census date, set by the Office of the Chancellor at the beginning of the fifth week of classes, is the point in the semester at which the university's enrollment numbers become official and are submitted to the system. Currently the census data also serves as the deadline for dropping courses and the deadline for adding courses at Humboldt State. This resolution moves the deadline for dropping or adding a course to the beginning of the third week of classes of the regular semester.

Currently, when students drop a class at the deadline, it is too late for other students to add it; for this reason, the enrollment in a high-demand course can end up substantially below capacity after census despite having a number of students on the wait list. Also, when students drop a class near the current deadline, they can fall below financial aid eligibility with very little opportunity to successfully add another class.

For oversubscribed or high-demand courses, an earlier drop deadline will allow other students to add the course earlier in the term. Furthermore, a similar move by San Diego State University saw essentially no increase in the D, F, WU rate and was viewed positively by the entire campus.