

## Student Rules and Regulations Committee

Approved by President

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(Additions to rules are bolded and underlined, deletions to rules are indicated by strikethrough)

### PROPOSAL

41.2.1.2. For graduate level students the minimum cumulative and semester GPA is a 3.00 **and for first professional students the minimum cumulative and semester GPA is 2.50.** In order for this provision to be met, at least four hours (half-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration. In one limited circumstance, summer semester hours may be applied to this provision. In order for summer coursework to qualify toward a grade point average prior to election/appointment, at least four credit hours must have been taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s) unless fewer credits are required as they complete the final stages of their degree.

### JUSTIFICATION

The College of Veterinary Medicine's longstanding policy on minimum GPAs for professional-level students (DVM) in leadership positions is that the student must maintain a cumulative and semester GPA of 2.50 or above to be eligible to serve as a club or class officer. Due to the fast pace, rigorous academic standards, and consistent time demands (21+ hrs. per semester) of the DVM curriculum, it is the CVM's opinion that a GPA of 2.50 and above is sufficient for the purposes of student leadership positions. This opinion is based upon many years of following this standard with DVM students, being mindful of their academic success and allowing them to experience leadership and team-building through student organizations. If the standards remain at a GPA of 3.0, many fewer students in the DVM program will have the opportunity to participate as leaders in these organizations, even though we believe that it remains a valuable part of their professional education. The skills acquired through leading an organization cannot be duplicated in the classroom, and for these reasons, we respectfully ask for an addition to the current rule.

### **RULE 41 PROPOSAL 1 CHANGES SUBMITTED BY:**

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### EXISTING RULE WITH CHANGES IN BOLD AND UNDERLINED.

#### 41. Student Organizations

(Revised: ~~2013~~ **2014**)

41.1. Student organizations may be officially recognized when formed for purposes that are consistent with the philosophy and goals that have been developed for the creation and existence of Texas A&M University. Approval for recognition is granted by the Vice President for Student Affairs through the Director of Student Activities. In order to be recognized and to retain official recognition, student organizations must meet certain requirements. Student organizations complying with the following conditions shall enjoy the privileges associated with the status of being officially recognized by the University including use of University name, University facilities for meetings, University logo and trademarks, and University property for concessions. To be recognized and/or maintain their recognized status, student organizations must:

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41.1.1. Have an approved faculty or staff advisor, employed at a level consistent with the categorization of the organization (as defined in the “Acknowledgement of Student Organization Advisor Expectations”), who should disseminate information contained in the Student Rules to the recognized student organization.

41.1.2. File an annual request for official recognition with the Department of Student Activities. An organization’s annual recognition cycle should begin in the month that the organization elects or selects leadership, as defined by the organization’s constitution. Each organization should provide: signatures of the University advisor and the student officers authorized to withdraw money; the names and contact information of all advisors and officers of the group; and a current constitution and by-laws that comply with the provisions outlined in the Student Organization Manual. Any changes to the organization’s constitution and by-laws shall be submitted to the Department of Student Activities in a timely manner.

41.1.3. Deposit and withdraw all funds of the organization in the Student Organization Finance Center and/or with the University Fiscal Department. All funds must be deposited no later than the next business day after collection. The organization’s advisor must approve and sign each expenditure before payment.

41.1.4. Avoid duplication of purposes, goals and activities with other organizations.

41.1.5. Be open in its membership unless otherwise permitted under applicable federal law.

The aforementioned criteria are minimum requirements set for the recognition of student organizations. Organizations may choose to set higher standards for membership including higher officer grade point requirements, higher membership grade point requirements, etc.

41.2. Students selected, elected or appointed as officers (an officer is an individual in a leadership position as defined in the organization’s constitution) in officially recognized student organizations shall:

41.2.1. Have a minimum cumulative and semester grade point average (GPA) as stated below and meet that minimum cumulative and semester GPA in the semester immediately prior to the election/appointment, the semester of election/appointment and semesters during the term of office.

41.2.1.1. For undergraduate students, the minimum cumulative and semester GPA is 2.00. In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (half-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration. In one limited circumstance, summer semester hours may be applied to this provision. In order for summer coursework to qualify toward a grade point average prior to election/appointment, at least six credit hours must have been taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s).

41.2.1.2. For graduate level students the minimum cumulative and semester GPA is a 3.00 **and for first professional students the minimum cumulative and semester GPA is 2.50.** In order

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for this provision to be met, at least four hours (half-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration. In one limited circumstance, summer semester hours may be applied to this provision. In order for summer coursework to qualify toward a grade point average prior to election/appointment, at least four credit hours must have been taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s) unless fewer credits are required as they complete the final stages of their degree.

41.2.2. Be in good standing (see 27.1.2) with the University and enrolled:

41.2.2.1. at least half time (six or more credit hours), if an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of office. Students enrolled in the Blinn TEAM program are also eligible to hold an office, as long as the student is meeting all applicable Blinn TEAM requirements and is in good standing with the program.

41.2.2.2. at least half time (four or more credits), if a graduate level student (unless fewer credits are required in the final stages of their degree as defined by the Continuous Registration Requirement) during their term of office.

41.2.3. Be ineligible to hold an office should the student fail to maintain the requirements as prescribed in 41.2.1 and 41.2.2.

41.3. Student religious organizations desiring to operate on campus are subject to all rules pertaining to other student organizations.

41.4. Student organizations and their advisors are responsible for compliance with University student rules and state and federal laws.

Approved by the Student Rules and Regulations Committee on 3/21/2014.

Approved by Faculty Senate on 4/14/2014.

Approved by President on 7/07/2014.