

April 24, 2006

TO: The University of Arizona Academic Community

FR: Jerry Hogle, Vice Provost for Instruction

RE: Future Applications to Restrict Undergraduate Access to  
Particular Majors, Minors, or Groups of Courses

In 2004, I issued a memo, with our Provost's support, that academic units could no longer *on their own* restrict the entry of undergraduates in good standing to their majors or minors **unless** they had prior approval to do so. The same memo also said that units could not unilaterally restrict courses or groups of courses to majors only, or to majors and minors, unless they had approval through my office to do that. Any future efforts to restrict student accessibility in these ways, I added, had to be *applied for* through me and evaluated by the Faculty Advisory Committee on the Accessibility of Majors, Minors, and Courses (the "Accessibility Committee" for short) under the aegis of the Undergraduate Council, which had recommended this University-wide action. Since then, several such applications have been acted upon via this process, often with "sunset" times being agreed upon for the ending of restrictions, whenever possible and appropriate. Now, as the Undergraduate Council has recently observed, we have come to a critical "fork" – with a new President coming – where we must consider the continuation of such a process towards some future point where certain qualified students in good standing overall might not be able to major in anything that truly interests them.

Accordingly, on the recommendation of both the Undergraduate Council and the Accessibility Committee, I am declaring a *moratorium, effective today*, on new applications for access restrictions – for what we will henceforth call "Academic Program Controls." This means that neither the Accessibility Committee nor the Undergraduate Council nor I will consider such applications until the moratorium is lifted. I anticipate that it will be lifted sometime in 2006-07, but only after President-designate Shelton has taken office and broader discussions have taken place about this whole problem in ways that can include him and the academic community together. All approvals for Academic Program Controls that now stand, including their "sunsets" (where those have been declared), will continue to be in force. But we are not considering new such proposals in the immediate future, *and* units may still not impose new restrictions of this kind without University permission.

To be sure, I am available for consultation (at [hogle@email.arizona.edu](mailto:hogle@email.arizona.edu)) if an unexpected emergency compels a unit to consider seeking Academic Program Controls. But we will consider such cases right now only in the most extreme circumstances. In the meantime, thank you for your understanding of this new moratorium. We want to serve all students in good standing as much as we can with reasonably accessible majors, minors, and academic programs throughout The University of Arizona.