Fall 2016

F16RS SGR No. 2 (Concentrated Study Period)

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STUDENT SENATE
F16RS
SGR No. 2
BY: SENATORS MICKLER AND IMPASTATO

A RESOLUTION
TO URGE AND REQUEST FACULTY SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO CONSIDER AND IMPLEMENT REVISIONS TO THE CONCENTRATED STUDY PERIOD POLICY

PARAGRAPH 1: WHEREAS, LSU DESIGNATES A FIVE-DAY PERIOD BEFORE FINAL EXAMINATIONS FOR CONCENTRATED STUDY AND REVIEW OF COURSE MATERIAL; AND

PARAGRAPH 2: WHEREAS, THIS POLICY CURRENTLY STATES:

The five-day period during the fall and spring semesters (Wednesday - Sunday) immediately preceding the week of final examinations will be set aside as a concentrated study period. During this time, no extracurricular student activities, such as social and athletic events, will be held on or off campus. Graded required course work (including exams, quizzes, and homework) may count for a total of at most 5% of the student's grade. Class projects (excluding exams and quizzes) are exempt from the 5% limit. The assumption is that work on such a project will take place throughout the semester. Exams and quizzes shall be defined as a question or set of questions to be given within a designated period of time. Laboratory courses are also exempt from this policy. Any other exceptions must receive prior approval from the Office of Academic Affairs. Students should report any violations of this policy to the Office of Academic Affairs.

PARAGRAPH 3: WHEREAS, THE CONCENTRATED STUDY PERIOD WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED BY FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 93-01, AND HAS BEEN REVISED BY SUBSEQUENT FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTIONS 02-06 AND 11-04 TO CHANGE THE ACCEPTABLE WEIGHT OF GRADED COURSEWORK GIVEN DURING THE PERIOD; AND
PARAGRAPH 4: WHEREAS, THE CURRENT POLICY HAS PROVED TO BE INEFFECTIVE IN CREATING A LEARNING-CENTERED ENVIRONMENT AND HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF CONFUSION AND FRUSTRATION FOR STUDENTS; AND

PARAGRAPH 5: WHEREAS, WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLUS/MINUS GRADING SCALE, THE CURRENT 5% MAXIMUM IS NO LONGER APPROPRIATE WITH THE DECREASED LETTER GRADE MARGINS; AND

PARAGRAPH 6: WHEREAS, THE MAJORITY OF FLAGSHIP 2020 PEER INSTITUTIONS MANDATE CONCENTRATED STUDY PERIODS THAT ARE MORE THOROUGH AND CENTERED TOWARDS PREPARATION FOR FINAL EXAMS WHICH IS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT “SYNOPSIS OF PEER INSTITUTIONS’ CONCENTRATED STUDY PERIODS”; AND

PARAGRAPH 7: WHEREAS, THE LSU STUDENT SENATE RECOMMENDS REPLACEMENT OF THE BOLDED TEXT WITH THE FOLLOWING:

To promote a learning-centered environment, graded coursework (including but not limited to tests, exams, quizzes, papers, projects, etc.) is not permitted during Concentrated Study Period.

PARAGRAPH 8: WHEREAS, THE LSU STUDENT SENATE ALSO RECOMMENDS THE ADDITION OF A HYPERLINK SUCH AS WWW.STUDENTS.LSU.EDU/SAA/LSU-CARES TO THE POLICY WHICH WOULD DIRECTS STUDENTS TO AN ONLINE PORTAL FOR REPORTING INFRACTIONS; AND

PARAGRAPH 9: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE URGE AND REQUEST FACULTY SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO CONSIDER AND IMPLEMENT REVISIONS TO THE CONCENTRATED STUDY PERIOD POLICY; AND

PARAGRAPH 10: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION AND ITS AUXILIARY DOCUMENT BE TRANSMITTED TO DR. RICHARD KOUBEK, PROVOST; DR. KEVIN COPE, FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT; DR. JANE CASSIDY, SENIOR VICE PROVOST; DR. MATT LEE, VICE PROVOST & CHAIRMAN OF THE
ACADEMIC POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE; AND KATIE BARRAS, ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS.

PARAGRAPH 11: THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY (ONE-HALF PLUS ONE) VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION, OR IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE SENATE, ON THE DATE OF SUCH APPROVAL.

APPROVED:

_________________________ _________________________
ALEX DE GRAVELLE          ZACHARY A. FAIRCLOTH
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE      STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

DATE:____________________  DATE:__________________