



OFFICE OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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December 16, 2015

President Gregory L. Fenves  
The University of Texas at Austin  
MAI 400  
Campus Mail Code: G3400

Dear President Fenves:

Enclosed for your consideration is a proposal to change the "Designated College Scholars" policy as approved by the Educational Policy Committee (D 13694-13695). On December 15, 2015, the Faculty Council approved the legislation on a no-protest basis. Final approval resides with you with formal notification to UT System.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns regarding this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hillary Hart".

Hillary Hart, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council

HH:dlr

Enclosure

xc: Janet Dukerich, senior vice provost

Electronic copies via email:

Randy Bomer, Educational Policy Committee chair  
Carol Longoria, assistant deputy to the president  
Michelle George, administrative manager in faculty affairs  
Lydia Cornell, program coordinator, provost's office  
Brenda Schumann, associate registrar

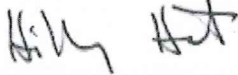
## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE "DESIGNATED COLLEGE SCHOLARS" POLICY AS APPROVED  
BY THE EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Educational Policy Committee, Professor Randy Bomer (committee chair, educational administration) submitted the following proposal to change the policy for "designated college scholars" in the *General Information* catalog. The Educational Policy Committee approved the change on October 5, 2015. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *general* interest. Final approval resides with the president with formal notification to UT System.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by December 14, 2015.



Hillary Hart, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council

**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE “DESIGNATED COLLEGE SCHOLARS” POLICY AS APPROVED  
BY THE EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE**

**COLLEGE SCHOLARS**

On Honors Day each spring, the University designates outstanding students as College Scholars and Distinguished College Scholars, on the basis of registration and grade point average requirements for courses taken in residence at the University, as specified below. Students who are eligible for recognition receive invitations to the Honors Day convocation about three weeks before Honors Day.

To be designated a College Scholar, a student must meet all of the following requirements:

1. The student must be registered as an undergraduate in the current semester. Students who hold [~~an undergraduate~~] a bachelors degree or are registered in-absentia are not eligible.
2. The student must have completed at least thirty semester hours of coursework in residence at the University, and at least sixty semester hours of college coursework, including transferred work and credit by examination.
3. The student must rank in the top 20 percent of their class in each college or school in which he or she is pursuing a major, based on in-residence cumulative grade point average.
4. The student must have an in-residence University grade point average of at least 3.50.

To be designated a Distinguished College Scholar, a student must meet all of the following requirements:

1. The student must meet the first, second, and fourth College Scholar requirements stated above.
2. The student also must rank in the top 4 percent of their class in each college or school in which they are pursuing a major, based on in-residence cumulative grade point average.

Rationale: Students had voiced concern that they were not eligible to be College Scholars because they held Associates Degree. After discussion, the Educational Policy Committee thought that excluding students with associates degrees was not the intention of the policy. The policy means to exclude students with Bachelors degrees, because they would be likely to have the unfair advantage of having had more research experiences. The EPC discussed this at its meeting on October 5, 2015, and everyone thought that excluding students with associates degrees was not really justifiable and that it was not intended to be the policy.