

# The Record

News about admissions, records, and student systems

February 2006, Vol. 30 No. 2

## Printed version of the Record vs. the e-version

Currently, an electronic version as well as a printed version of this publication—The Record—are available to any individual upon request. The Office of Enrolled Student Services is investigating the possibility of moving toward an electronic version only. Feedback regarding this potential change, including pros and cons, should be directed to Ingrid Nuttall at [ingridn@umn.edu](mailto:ingridn@umn.edu).

## Graduate School invites proposals for innovation in graduate education

The Graduate School invites proposals for improving the quality of graduate education, and the quality of the graduate student experience, at the University of Minnesota. This initiative follows the exploration of three Graduate School priorities at the School's Centennial Symposium held this past October: increasing access to graduate education for underrepresented groups; promoting innovations in the design of graduate education to produce excellent student experiences and outcomes; and developing institutional policies and practices that facilitate interdisciplinary teaching, research, and training in graduate education. Proposals may address any aspect of graduate education that would benefit from innovation and change, but preference will be given to ideas that advance these three priorities. Any University employee, currently enrolled (spring 2006) Graduate School student, Graduate School program, or department or college that offers a program(s) in cooperation with the Graduate School, is eligible to submit a proposal. The deadline for proposals is March 17, 2006. Awards will be announced in mid-April and celebrated at a public event on May 9. For complete information about the call for ideas, see "News, Events and Announcements" on the Graduate School Web site, <http://www.grad.umn.edu/dgs/innovation.html>.

## PeopleSoft 8.9 update

The upgrade to PeopleSoft 8.9 is well underway! The Student Records Info Tech staff are working on refining testing documents and finding test cases in preparation for the beginning of the testing cycle in mid-March. Most in-progress work requests for the current version have been completed, and OIT programmers are on track for getting current modifications into the new version in time for testing. Student Records trainers are beginning to offer informal sessions to show the new menu structure and search pages:

February 21, 1:30-3:00 p.m. 140 Nolte  
 February 24, 9:00-10:30 a.m. 140 Nolte  
 March 1, 10:00-11:30 a.m. 140 Nolte  
 March 1, 3:00-4:30 p.m. 33 McNeal

Look for continued updates in future issues of the Record; information about pre-view sessions and other training information will be sent to all PeopleSoft users as it becomes available.



## Datebook: Spring 2006

### February

2/14 Bursars offices open until 5:00 p.m.  
 2/15 First spring bill due (33 percent);  
 Bursars offices open until 5:00 p.m.

### March

3/1 Last day for Graduate School students to apply for participation in spring commencement ceremony  
 3/7 Precinct caucuses  
 3/13-17 Spring break  
 3/14 Bursars offices open until 5:00 p.m.  
 3/15 Last day to apply for Graduation School for summer 2006; second spring bill due; Bursars offices open until 5:00 p.m.  
 3/17 University holiday; all University offices closed  
 3/20 Last day to apply for May term graduation (undergraduate, professional); second 7-week session begins  
 3/27 Last day for 100 percent refund, second 7-week session.  
 3/29, 30 Grad Fest in Coffman Union

### April

4/11 May/summer 2006 registration begins for admitted students  
 4/12 Third spring bill due (100%)  
 4/13 Fall 2006 queued registration begins  
 4/18 Open registration for May/summer 2006 begins

### May

5/5 Last day of classes; open registration for fall 2006 begins

## Classes will be held on precinct caucus night

There has been a change in University policy concerning the scheduling of classes on caucus night, Tuesday, March 7, 2006. State law, Section 202A.19, Subdivision 3, gives the University Board of Regents authority to allow classes and other events to be held on caucus night. Instructors are expected to make accommodation for students who will be attending their party caucus.

## Ask One Stop update

The new Ask One Stop functionality on the One Stop Web site has received over 3600 hits since going live in late December 2005. Ask One Stop, which can be found on the left side of each One Stop web page, allows users to search a database of frequently asked questions and answers. Users can also view the top 10 overall FAQs and browse FAQs by topic. To enhance service, comments and ratings entered by users are being reviewed on a weekly basis and changes and additions are being made based on those comments and other feedback received from students, faculty, and staff. Comments or suggestions for Ask One Stop can be directed to Sandy Britsch, s-brit@umn.edu, or Dan Delaney,

## Changes to the reduced credit waiver and more

These changes went into effect on February 9, 2006:

1) The following text has been added to the "Reduced Credit Load" section heading: "(Note: The deadline to file for a reduced credit load is the end of the 4th week of the semester.)"

Please note students will still be able to submit the waiver after the fourth week of the term; this text reflects a decision made by the Registrar's Advisory Committee to advertise a specific deadline for the waiver.

2) The "Reduced Credit Load" application will now interface with PeopleSoft to assist in determining if a student is eligible to submit a waiver. For example, the application will now allow readmitted students to submit a waiver before they have registered.

3) The link on the "Ineligible User" page to the "13-credit FAQ" is now fully functional.

4) The "Exit" link on the "Ineligible User" page has been updated and the Critical Processing Error will no longer display.

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact William Dana at Danax002@sossgw.stu.umn.edu.

## Extended Sunday maintenance window

On Sunday, February 19 and Sunday, February 26, One Stop self-service applications will be unavailable from 6:00 a.m. to at least 2:00 p.m. to accommodate an update to the storage used by several database server machines. Downtime may extend until 4:00 p.m. Applications affected by this downtime include registration, grades and student account.


## TheRecord

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