



# Student Government Association

## St. Mary's College of Maryland

St. Mary's City, Maryland, 20686

### Resolution S 22:01

#### *Student Opposition to Proposed Credit Transfer Policy*

**Sponsors:** Calvin Ryan, *Waring Commons Senator*;

**Executive Cosponsors:** Dylan Parham, *SGA Vice President*;

**Community Cosponsors:** Kathy Langan Pusecker, *Executive Director for Student Success*; Mary Dorsey, *Director of Academic Success*; Joanne Goldwater, *Associate Dean for Retention and Student Success*; F.J. Talley, *Director of DeSousa Brent Program*; Megan Pietryka, *Assistant Coordinator of Accessibility Services*

**Whereas:** The Registrar's Office proposed a new transfer credit policy to the Academic Policy Committee which would change the number of credits and GPA that a student would receive if they elect to repeat a St. Mary's course at another institution;

**Whereas:** The Registrar's Office stated that the initial reason for proposing this policy was technological and that they would have to make manual computations upon the implementation of the new system in the Fall 2022 semester, but also reported that this new policy would bring St. Mary's more in line with other state schools;

**Whereas:** St. Mary's College of Maryland is significantly smaller than other comparators (UMD and Towson) and offers courses less frequently; rarely during summers and sometimes only one semester or every other year. Thus, implementing this policy could have a negative impact on how quickly students could repeat a course for a higher GPA, potentially delaying their time to degree;

**Whereas:** Both policies are included below key changes in GPA highlighted. This current policy is as follows:

*A student may elect to repeat a course at another institution. To do so, the student must file a pre-approval of transfer credit form with the Office of the Registrar. If the grade received at the other institution is C- or better (or a D or better from a Maryland public institution), the student will be awarded transfer credits for pre-approved courses. Although the original*

*grade will be removed from the computation of the grade-point average, it will remain on the transcript. The transfer grade is not calculated into the grade-point average. A student may not repeat a course after earning a degree from the College.*

The proposed policy by the Registrar's Office would be as follows:

*Students may elect to repeat a course at another institution. To do so, the student must file a pre-approval of transfer credit form with the Office of the Registrar. If the grade received at the other institution is C- or better (or a D or better from a Maryland public institution), the student will be awarded transfer credits for pre-approved courses; however, the transfer grade will not be calculated into the grade-point average. The original grade will still be included in the computation of the grade-point average, and it will remain on the transcript. A student may not repeat a course after earning a degree from the College*

**Whereas:** This policy harms students because the grade that they received in the course at St. Mary's, that they chose to repeat, will remain in the computation of their GPA, thus making it potentially difficult for a student to recover their GPA in a timely manner;

**Whereas:** When this issue was presented to the SGA for feedback, we overwhelming voted against the implementation of the proposed policy with 88.9% (16 people) voting against it, 5.6% (1 person) stating they were fine with either, and 5.6% (1 person) voting in favor of the proposed policy;

**Be it Hereby Resolved:** The SGA will present this resolution and the vast student opposition to the proposed policy to the Faculty and Faculty Senate before they vote on its implementation.