CAP enforces credit limit

By Howard D. Sitter

Last year’s faculty decisions to restrict freshmen on the pass-fail system to a sixty-unit maximum was austenly enforced during the fall semester. An examination of transcripts revealed that only three students exceeded the credit allotment, primarily due to technical variations.

Professor Arthur C. Smith of the Committee on Academic Performance reported that course registration had been monitored throughout the semester in order to bring about compliance with the recent Institute policy. The only problems confronted by the CAP were to record-keeping and special academic programs such as the 18.01-18.02 sequence.

Freshmen in recent years, according to Smith, have used pass/fail to accumulate large amounts of credit. When pass/fail was established, Smith explained, the faculty intended it as "a unique experience of studying with faculty advisors and members of the freshman advisory council."

"A bewildered freshman arrives here and hears 'You're only taking fifty units; I'm taking eighty-five' and is pressured to compete," Smith observed. The peer pressure problem was brought to the CAP’s attention by faculty advisors and members of the freshman advisory council.

"Our system can only serve as a credit allotment, primarily due to technical variations."

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