

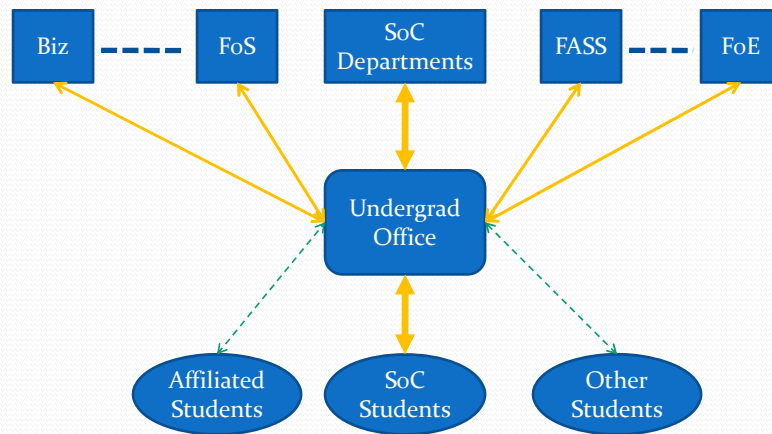
Dialogue Session on Module Preference Exercise

Undergraduate Office
School of Computing

Motivation

- Students: Anxiety over registration of modules offered by all faculties
- Departments: Difficulty in changing quotas of each module to cater for dynamic demands
- Undergraduate Office: Get blamed from left and right, top and bottom
- Solution: Better prediction of demands and supplies for students and departments.

The forces behind CORS



What is Module Preference Exercise (MPE)?

You tell us your module preferences for the following semester, we try to accommodate your preference before CORS.

Objectives of MPE

- Give departments and school time to react to SoC students' demands
- Give SoC students more stable anticipation of class quota
- Give some SoC students peace of mind through pre-allocation of modules
- Support fine-grained module allocation adjustment for students with diverse education requirements

MPE Principle I

Honour CORS Bidding

- No violation of spirits of CORS bidding
- If final demand exceeds final supply during MPE, bidding exercise will be required (during CORS sessions)
- If final demand is less than final supply during MPE, module pre-allocation is performed

MPE Principle II

Priority for Graduating Students

- COM4 and CEC4
 - Graduating within one semester ($MC \geq 136$)
 - Graduating within one year ($116 \leq MC < 136$)
- Final semester in Biz and Tech focus
 - Graduating within one semester ($MC \geq 96$)
 - Graduating within one year ($76 \leq MC < 96$)

MPE Principle III

Emphasis on Essentials & Electives

- Attempt to provide pre-allocation for students choosing modules to meet Essential/Elective requirements
- Your indication on UE preference gives us a chance to refine class quota

MPE Principle IV

Iterative Refinements

- Iterative refinements of both your preferences and our accommodations.
- Only for graduating students, for practical reason
- Iterative 1: We publish quota, you state your preference
- Iterative 2: We answer to your preference, and possibly publish renewed quota, you state your renewed preference
- Final: We answer to your preference

Step 1 of MPE

Streaming Exercise

- Choose your stream/programme early
- Stream exercise will be conducted in the middle of this semester
- If you are first year students, it's to your advantage that you have selected a stream.
 - Don't know your stream? Ask your mentor or academic advisors for advice

Step 2 of MPE

Module Preference indication

- Quota for each module is made known to you
- Assume that you pass all modules in this semester
- You choose up to 4 modules as your preference for the following semester
- You identify each of the modules as essentials, electives, or UE
- Modules available are CS-coded and those non-CS modules appearing in your programme requirements

Step 3 of MPE

Dealing with demands in groups

- UG Office negotiate with departments for quota according to demands
- Group A
 - Hons: MC \geq 136
 - Biz&Tech: MC \geq 96
- Group B
 - Hons: MC \geq 116
 - Biz&Tech: MC \geq 76
- Group C
 - All other students

Step 4 of MPE

CS Modules with demand falls behind supply

- CS Modules: Automatic module pre-allocation
 - 1 bid-point
 - Only for essential and electives modules

Step 5 of MPE

Non-CS module Preference

- Collect the demand for such modules
- Negotiate with Departments for change in quota
 - Only essentials and electives are considered
 - Preallocate whenever possible
- Inform students of the outcome

Fine-grained module allocation

- CS Module demand exceeds supply
- UG Office negotiate with departments for increase in quota
- Perform fine-grained module allocation
 - Only consider Essentials and Electives
 - Satisfy demand for Essentials/Electives for Group A
 - Satisfy demand for Essentials/Electives for Group B
 - Satisfy demand for Essentials/Electives for all other students
- Inform students of the outcome

Allocation A module

- Main Program {
 - Goto [EssentialA strategy](#)}

EssentialA Strategy

- If $\#essential_1[A] \leq quota$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - Goto [ElectiveA strategy](#)
- If $\#essential_1[A] > quota$
 - 2nd preference exercise for group A
 - If $\#essential_2[A] \leq quota$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - Goto [ElectiveA strategy](#)
 - Else
 - Open for bidding

ElectiveA Strategy

- If $\#elective_1[A] \leq quota\text{-remained}$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - Goto [GroupB Strategy](#)
- Else
 - 2nd preference exercise for group A
 - If $\#elective_2[A] \leq quota\text{-remained}$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - Goto [GroupB Strategy](#)
 - Else
 - Open for bidding

GroupB Strategy

- If $\#essential_1[B] \leq \text{quota-remained}$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - If $\#elective_1[B] \leq \text{new-quota-remained}$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - Goto [GroupC Strategy](#)
 - Else
 - Open for bidding
- Else
 - Open for bidding

GroupC Strategy

- If $\#essential_1[C] \leq \text{quota-remained}$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - If $\#elective_1[C] \leq \text{new-quota-remained}$
 - Pre-allocate them
 - Return
 - Else
 - Open for bidding
- Else
 - Open for bidding

Tying up loose end

- If you fail a module this semester
 - If your pre-allocated module has this module as pre-req
 - We will not pre-allocate this module for you
- You are allowed to drop a module pre-allocated
 - no refund

MPE Schedule (including streaming exercise) for Semester 1, AY09-10

Date	Description
Wed, 30 Sep 09 at SR1 (5.00 to 6.00 pm)	Briefing to students on the MPE implementation details
2 Nov to 5 Nov 09	Streaming exercise (to include capturing of SoC areas of specialisation)
9 to 12 Nov 09	MPE (1 st round) – all students must indicate their choices
17 Nov 09	Communications to Group A students on MPE outcomes via email
18 to 19 Nov 09	MPE 2 nd round indication for Group A students (Optional, activated only when it is necessary)
30 Nov 09	MPE 2 nd round allocation - optional
Before Round 0 of semester 2, AY2009-10 CORS registration	Preallocation of modules in CORS



It's your turn to speak