University unveils Duck Call II registration system

By Jen Ellison

Duck Call registration for fall term starts May 17, but it won't be what you're expecting

Now dubbed Duck Call II, telephone registration has an entirely new format, with more options than ever before.

On Duck Call II, callers enter their student identification number and personal access code, followed by a function code. The new system doesn't say what each

A list of all of the codes and a description of all of the options are located in the front of the fall time schedule. available for a quarter at the EMU Main Desk and University Bookstore May 10.

Some of the new options are grade changes, variable credit changes, listings of open sections and waiting

The waiting list option works on a limited basis. If you get on the waiting list, the University automatically assumes you'll make it into the class and charges you for it. Students get into the class as space becomes available.

The waiting list option was added to give students with earlier registration times a chance to get into a closed class, said Kate Johnson, an associate registrar. In the past, students have had to take their chances with

everyone else, randomly calling in to check on openings.

Students can call in later to find out if they are in the class. When you ask for a list of the classes you're in, Duck Call II will either say you're registered or you're on the waiting list.

There is an additional waiting list option that will allow you to learn your position on the list.

Another new function of Duck Call II is the multipleterm capacity. You can make changes to your current term or the term you're about to enter at the same time.

Duck Call II will remain open for fall term registration until July 3. It will open again Aug. 1. Summer registration will start June 1. Both can be accessed at the same

On Sept. 7, yet another new function will come on line. It will allow you to exchange a class you're registered in for a class you want, but only if it's open. This is for people who are already close to their 18-credit limit but want to try to add a class to see if it's open.

With this new option you don't have to drop the class you're in to see if another one is open. Duck Call II will automatically drop the one and add the other if it's open.

This information is available in the time schedule.

"It is very important for people to carefully read the Duck Call II section of the time schedule before they register," Johnson said. "Or else they won't know what to

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> LaVon Murphy, University student

do."

Returning students have been excited to learn about Duck Call II.

'It's about time," said LaVon Murphy, a student in planning, public policy and management. "It will save me the hassle of running all over campus. They should have done this in the first place."

Students are also looking forward to the new waiting list option.

'I'm a freshman and that waiting list thing means I have a chance to get into Native American Literature and other popular classes," said Beth Scovell, a pre-journal-

The new additions to the call-in registration system don't cost the University any "new capital," only extra hours by employees for programming, Johnson said.



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a maximum of \$13,000 to students participating in the program for two years, but it was scaled back to \$10,000 at the last minute, an administration official said Friday night.

'Some veterans, looking at it a certain way, thought the other proposal (for \$13,000) might be out of line" with lower benefits available under the GI bill, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity

The official said several Republicans had suggested that would be much easier to win bipartisan support for the proposal if the cost per participant were reduced. Also, lowering the payment each participant receives allows more students to take part, the official said.

More than 5,000 people have inquired about serving since Clinton discussed the program in a speech March 1, aides said.

With the national service program and the redesign of the student loan program, Clinton said together they will revive America's commitment to community and make affordable the cost of a college education for every American.

Clinton's blueprint called for the government to begin borrowing money and lending it to students directly, with colleges and universities acting as agents.

Currently, students borrow directly from banks, which profit from the interest they charge. Loan defaults are projected at \$2.5 billion this year, and the federal government protects banks

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against any losses.

By eliminating the middle man, the government would save \$4.3 billion through fiscal year 1998 and would be able to charge interest rates a half percentage point lower interest rate than banks, administration officials

The American Bankers Association sharply criticized the direct-loan plan.

"The direct lending concept combines the efficiency of the Post Office with all the charm of the IRS," said ABA executive vice president Donald Ogilvie. "It will not deliver the level of access, service and efficiency that the (student loan program) currently provides.

Clinton said the proposal would "ease the terms of college

"In return, we'll demand responsibility from young people," he said. "We'll make it easier to borrow money and much easier to pay it off, but this time you have to pay it off. You can't just default on the loan.

Loan repayments would be based on a percentage of a worker's income. Those with lower income jobs would have longer to pay off their loans.

The legislation authorizes the Internal Revenue Service to share with the Education Department information about a borrower's annual income so the government could determine the terms of repayment.

It also envisions the possibility of using the IRS as a collection agency, perhaps through automatic wage withholding.

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