PARALLEL LINKING (AKA CASCADING)

WHAT IS PARALLEL LINKING?

It's a feature in Tele-BEARS where if a student is unable to add a course because it's full, the system will offer the student the next available section of the course IF the day/time is identical to the one the student originally requested. When the first section is full, it automatically cascades down to the next section that's available. It can be set up for both primary and secondary sections.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

It's a combination of numbering the sections, adding print codes, assigning the course option, and setting the wait list limits. For example, this is how Biology 1B is currently set up:

1) number the sections: the first two numbers of each secondary LAB/DIS pair are identical so the nest structure will work (e.g., 100/101, 110/111, 200/201, 210/2111, etc.). The numbering will change depending on if you have tertiary sections in addition to secondary sections.

2) add print codes: the first pair of secondary sections should have a print code F while the pairs that follow at the same day/time should have a print code C. After the student enters the primary section, Tele-BEARS displays the secondary sections with a print code "F". The select button shows the secondary sections as if they're available even if they're full as long as the next available section, which is suppressed with a print code "C", is at the same day/time and has seats available. After selecting the full secondary section, Tele-BEARS automatically enrolls the student in that next section.

3) assign the course option: Classroom Scheduling will assign the appropriate course option, in this case Z9. It links the primary and secondary sections in a nesting structure and on the Online Schedule of Classes does the following: on secondary sections the "Click here for current enrollment information and course restrictions" link will be removed and the "Enrollment on" field (Limit, Enrolled, Waitlist, Avail Seats) will be replaced with "See primary section for enrollment data."

4) set the wait list limits: the first pair of secondary sections should be set at one half of the enrollment limit while the pairs that follow at the same day/time should be set at zero.

HOW DO YOU PREVENT IT?

To prevent parallel linking, on the Update Class screen enter a unique 2-digit numeric code in the CRS CON (course content) field for each section. Doing this distinguishes each section from the other, and Tele-BEARS treats them as if they were single-section courses.