Provision for early registration for Dual Degree students in the summer

**The Problem**

Most dual degree students are unable to take their degrees at the convocation scheduled for them. This happens because of the following reasons primarily:

* Delayed thesis defense: Even though many students complete the necessary credits for their thesis, they are unable to defend their thesis on time. This deadline for defending theses depends on the date of the convocation. Hence the number of dual degree students graduating on time can vary widely depending on whether the convocation is held in May or in July.
* Leftover credits: A fair number of students have 4 credits worth of thesis work left over to be completed in the summer before they can defend their thesis. These 4 credits translate to 28 days of work. Again, depending on the date of the convocation, the number of Dual Degree students graduating may fluctuate considerably.

The key issue with the above problems is the fact that whether a dual degree student gets his/her degree on time or not depends on the “luck” of the batch, instead of the just the amount of work that has been put in. Such unpredictability should preferably be minimized to allow students to plan properly.

**The Proposed Solution:**

Here are some suggestions that can be incorporated to solve the above problems:

* Delay the date of the convocation as much as possible without interfering with the start of the next academic session.
* Allow Dual Degree students with incomplete credits to register right after the semester ends instead of waiting for the usual date of summer registration. This would give the students 10 odd days to have a better chance at completing thesis on time.

This can be facilitated by asking students with incomplete credits to fill up a form in advance during the Spring semester asking for permission to register right after the semester ends.