

University Academic Affairs Committee

Agenda

September 14, 2016, 1 pm
111 Hurley Convergence Center

Present

Committee: Keith Mellinger (chair), Beverly Epps, Davis Oldham, Woody Richardson

Ex officio: Kimberly Buster-Williams, Rita Dunston, John Morello, Wes Hillyard

Guest: Jose Sainz

1. Old Business

a. AP Capstone Credit

i. Capstone includes a research and seminar component; SI committee opposes SI credit for AP capstone, WI anticipates the same decision for WI credit. After discussion of AP policies at COPLAC schools and schools like UMW a motion was made to accept a score of 3 for AP research as a 3 credit elective and a score of 3 on AP Seminar as a 3 credit elective, coding will be “elective- not major”. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Student representatives for UAAC

i. According to the handbook, 2 student representatives will be appointed to the UAAC by the President. In the past the SGA Academic Affairs Chair served on UAAC. UAAC will contact President’s office and the SGA president to determine how to proceed.

2. New Business

a. TOEFL Requirement change (see Appendix A)

i. Proposal: Beginning with the 2016-17 recruitment period, international students will be required to have a TOEFL score of 80. The current requirement is 88. Rationale can be found in Appendix A. TOEFL score alone does not guarantee acceptance to UMW, transcripts and letters of recommendation are also taken into consideration. A motion was made to change the required score to 80. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Policy on repeating classes (see Appendix B).

i. Consider:

1. whether or not three-peats should be permitted on a case-by-case basis
2. who has authority over the matter
3. should UMW accept successful completion of an equivalent course elsewhere when it is a “three-peat”

Discussion included the pros and cons of 3-peats for the students; impact on graduation timeline; feasibility of achieving grade necessary for graduation; and a variety of passed and possible scenarios. It was clarified that the Director of Academic Services will always consult with the department chair when presented with a request for a three-peat. No action taken.

3. Adjourned 1:55

Appendix A TOEFL Requirement - Proposal

Background Information:

There has been tremendous growth in international enrollments in the US over the last decade and there exists significant opportunity for the *University of Mary Washington* to recruit and enroll more international students. According to the Institute of International Education, Open Doors Report 2014/15, 977,926 international students studied at U.S. colleges and universities in 2014/15. Below are the “Top 10 countries” sending students to institutions of higher education in the U.S.

Rank	Place of Origin	2013/14	2014/15	% of Total	% Change
1	China	274,439	304,040	31.2	10.8
2	India	102,673	132,888	13.6	29.4
3	South Korea	68,047	63,710	6.5	-6.4
4	Saudi Arabia	53,919	59,945	6.1	11.2
5	Canada	28,304	27,240	2.8	-3.8
6	Brazil	13,286	23,675	2.4	78.2
7	Taiwan	21,266	20,993	2.2	-1.3
8	Japan	19,334	19,064	2.0	-1.4
9	Vietnam	16,579	18,722	1.9	12.9
10	Mexico	14,779	17,052	1.7	15.4

Institute of International Education. (2015). "Top 25 Places of Origin of International Students, 2013/14-2014/15." *Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange*. Retrieved from <http://www.iie.org/opendoors>

Proposal:

Beginning with the 2016-17 recruitment period, international students will be required to have a TOEFL score of 80. The current requirement is 88.

Rationale:

- A score of 80 will ensure that UMW is seen by international students as a “viable option”.
- A score of 80 allows student to enroll at UMW with the required English proficiency level.
- When comparing to other COPLAC schools, 80 seems to be an average cut off score:

-College of Charleston

All applicants whose primary language is not English must submit passing scores from the TOEFL. For the TOEFL iBT exam, the minimum total score accepted for admission is 81. The recommended section scores are: writing = 20, speaking = 23, listening = 17 and reading = 21. If an applicant's score falls below the recommended minimum in one area but still meets the total score requirement of 81, section scores will be assessed individually in terms of their language adequacy for the program to which the student is applying.

-Ramapo College

Applicants must demonstrate fluency in English by submitting scores from a standardized test. Ramapo College will accept scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the

International English Language Testing System (IELTS). All applications are considered for admission individually. Applicants should use the following guidelines for test results:

IELTS – 6.0

TOEFL – Paper Based 550

TOEFL – Computer Based 213

TOEFL – Internet based 79

ELS – Completion of Intensive English Program Level 112

-St. Mary's College of Maryland

Applicants take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) if English is not their native language. They recommend minimum TOEFL scores of 550 for the traditional test, a score of 250 for the computer-based test, and a score of 90 for the Internet version. They recommend a minimum IELTS score of 7.0.

-SUNY College at Geneseo

Their site provided scores to all SUNY schools and the range is 61 (Buffalo State) to 79-80 (Geneseo, Purchase, Cortland, Oswego, etc.)

- Finally, a score of 80 is comparable to requirements by peers in the state (see below).

STATE OF VIRGINIA PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS	TOEFL COMPARISON	
INSTITUTION	TOEFL SCORE FOR UG ADMISSION	NOTES
Christopher Newport University	71*	*Includes UG First year and Transfer
Old Dominion University	79*	-OR- possession of a Bachelor's or Master's degree equivalent from an accredited institution located in a country where English is the native language; -OR- Successful completion of two university or college level English courses at a regionally accredited U.S. institution; -OR- Successful completion of the ELC's Monarch English Transition Program (formerly the ELC Bridge Program).
Longwood	79/80	
Virginia Commonwealth	80	
James Madison	80	

Appendix B

From the Undergraduate Academic Catalog:

Repeating a Course

Students may repeat certain courses in which their original grades were C-, D+, D, F or FA. Although both the old grade and the new grade will be shown on the permanent record, the grade in the repeated course is the grade that determines the student's grade-point average and the amount of credit earned for the course. No additional credits will be earned for repeating courses for which credits have already been earned (courses in which a grade of C-, D+, or D was recorded).

Note: The University of Mary Washington does not guarantee that courses will be available in future semesters. When a course is no longer offered, another course will not replace the repeated course.

Before registering to repeat a course, the student should verify that he or she is eligible to do so according to the restrictions listed below. Registration software may not block students from registering for courses when not eligible, but it is the student's responsibility to adhere to these guidelines regardless of the technical ability to register. Only courses repeated at UMW can improve the student's grade-point average. If a student repeats and passes (with a grade of C or better) a pre-approved transfer course at another institution that he or she failed at UMW, he or she will receive transfer credits, but the UMW record will still include the credits attempted (and therefore the grade-point average penalty) for the failed UMW course.

Restrictions on Repeating Courses

1. No course may be repeated more than once.
2. No more than three courses may be repeated in a single semester, with the entire summer session considered a single semester.
3. No more than seven courses altogether may be repeated.
4. No course may be repeated that is a prerequisite for a course that has already been completed.