

International Student Admissions Policies (Undergraduate Students)

It is proposed to:

1. Accept IELTS (International English Language Testing System) test scores at the undergraduate level as an alternative to TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language).
2. Raise the undergraduate English proficiency requirement for international student admission from the current level of TOEFL 500 (Paper-Based test), TOEFL 173 (Computer-Based test), to TOEFL 520 (190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5.
3. Accept successful completion of UWM's ESL Program, with a passing grade after one full semester at the Immersion level, as equivalent to a score of TOEFL 520 (190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5 for UWM admission purposes. Students successfully completing would not be required to present TOEFL or IELTS scores.
4. Allow conditional admission to undergraduate programs for international students who apply to UWM without first having achieved a score of TOEFL 520(190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5. These students would fall into one of the following two categories:
 - A. Any student admitted conditionally to an undergraduate program who presents scores below TOEFL 500(173)/IELTS 5.5 (or who does not present one of these scores) would be required to enroll full time in the ESL program. Upon achieving a TOEFL score in the 500(173) to 517(187) range, the student would move to Category B.
 - B. Students admitted conditionally to an undergraduate program who present scores of TOEFL 500(173) or more, but less than TOEFL 520(190), would be allowed to enroll in 6 credits in their academic area on condition that they concurrently enroll in two classes in the Intensive English Program. After successfully completing the ESL program through the Immersion level, or achieving a TOEFL 520(190)/IELTS 5.5, these students will be eligible for full time academic enrollment.

**University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Admissions & Records Policy Committee (ARPC)
Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2004**

Members present: Edward Burgess, Nancy Gusavac, Bruce Horner, Yi-Ching Kao, Bridget Kemp, Justin Mayer, Carol Seery, Dianne Sinnwell, Beth Weckmueller

Absent: Brian Armstrong

Guests: Brooke Thomas, Jennifer Gruenewald

Call to Order (11:05 am)

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the January 27, 2004 meeting were approved.

Old Business

Brooke Thomas and Jennifer Gruenewald of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) presented the revised proposal regarding undergraduate admission requirements for international students. The document raised the minimum TOEFL score; included optional submission of an IELTS score; and described ESL study requirements for conditional admission of low-scoring students. The proposal had been approved “in principle” at the January 2004 meeting. A motion to approve the revised version was made by Bruce Horner. Bridget Kemp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Carol Seery will send the proposal forward to the University Committee to see if further action is necessary.

It was discussed that international graduate student admission requirements (not an aspect of the proposal) are handled by the Graduate School. Questions were raised by ARPC committee members about some specific cases of admission review related to graduate students (e.g., applicants from Puerto Rico, Americans who have completed college degrees abroad). The ISSS representatives expressed interest and willingness to communicate with Graduate School personnel in an effort to further clarify how related cases are handled.

New Business: Registrar’s Update

Beth Weckmueller reviewed the application numbers for the Fall 2004 (semester (+18% compared to this time last year) and the current enrollment numbers for Spring 2004 semester (+4% over last year’s headcount).

An item was presented for action. The ARPC considered the Department of Enrollment Services’ proposal that a timely submission of ACT scores be required in the admission review process for all new freshmen applicants regardless of their standing with respect to class rank. Nance Gusavac moved that the proposal be accepted. Ed Burgess seconded. Motion passed.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon. The next meeting is scheduled for March 30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nance Gusavac and Carol Seery

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