S.08-109

## OFFICE OF THE

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND ASSOCIATE PROVOST

MEMO


Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of September 9, 2008, gives rise to the following recommendation:

## Motion:

"that Senate approve the transfer credit awarded to students who have completed the International Baccalaureate diploma be changed to a maximum of 30 units for all standard level and higher level subjects that are passed with a grade of 4 or higher. If assigned credits are less than 30 units, general elective credit will be assigned to bring the total to 30 ."

MEMO

Student Services
MBC 3000
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, BC V5A1S6
Canada

| attention | Bill Krane, Chair <br> Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies |
| :---: | :---: |
| FROM | Mehran Kiai, Director of Enrollment Services |
| cc: | Kate Ross, Registrar \& Senior Director, Enrollment Services |
| RE | International Baccalaureate Credit Proposal |
| Date | July 25, 2008 |

Current Policy: A student who has completed the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma typically will be admitted subject to a minimum overall score of 28 . Transfer credit is awarded for some higher level subjects passed with a grade of 4 or higher, to a maximum of 30 units. We not do grant transfer credit for standard level subjects. BC IB diploma holders are awarded an average of 15 transfer credits at the time of admission (see attached chart A).

Recommendation: That the transfer credit awarded to students who have completed the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma be changed to:

Transfer credit will be awarded for all standard level and higher level subjects that are passed with a grade of 4 or higher, to a maximum of 30 units. When the individually assigned credit for all standard level and higher level subjects totals less than 30 units, additional general elective credit will be assigned to bring the transfer credit total to 30 units (equivalent of one year of credit).

Rationale: The IB diploma program is a rigorous 2 year university preparation program leading to a qualification that is recognized by leading universities world wide.
Students entering SFU with a complete IB diploma perform well in their studies at SFU. Retention data from December 2007 (see attached chart A) illustrates this point. In their first term at SFU, students admitted with a BC IB diploma have an average GPA of 3.00 ( 3.20 after 30 SFU credits), while BC12 students have an average GPA of 2.58 ( 2.75 after 30 SFU credits). Only $17.8 \%$ of BC IB diploma students were on academic probation (OAP) after 2 years at SFU, while $29.4 \%$ of BC12 admits were OAP after 2 years. In addition, $B C$ IB diploma students took an average of 12.9 courses in their first term at SFU, while BC12 students took an average of 11.7 courses.
Many other Canadian universities, including UBC and the University of Victoria (see attached chart B), grant $2^{\text {nd }}$ year status upon admission for IB diploma holders. In addition, the University of Victoria awards transfer credit for Standard Level (SL) courses, so this proposal will keep us competitive within BC and across the country.

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> Academic Standing:
> CGPA's Over Time:

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IB Recognition Policy Summary－Canadian Universities





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