### SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.78-90

### MEMORANDUM

| ToSENATE  | SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND RULES  |
|---|---------------------------------------|
|   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| PROPOSED NEW ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS Subject. FOR B. C. SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES |                                       |

At its meeting of July 25, 1978, the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules recommended that the above mentioned paper, submitted by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board, be considered also by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning with report from that body before the paper is presented to Senate for formal consideration with action and decisions to be taken by Senate on the various specific recommendations of the SUAB paper. The intent is that the paper be considered at a meeting of SCAP to be held Wednesday, September 13, at which members of SUAB will be in attendance to discuss jointly the proposals and their perceived impacts.

SCAR recommended also that the present paper be presented to Senate at its meeting of Monday, September 11 for informal discussion to give opportunity for members of Senate to express generally their views on the recommendations and thereby to assist SUAB and SCAP in the discussions to be held at SCAP on September 13.

Following the meeting of September 13, it is expected that the paper, with or without revision, will come forward with report for formal consideration and action at Senate, likely at the October meeting.

For purposes of <u>informal discussion at Senate on September 11</u>, it is proposed that the recommendations first be discussed ad seriatum with each Senator who wishes to have opportunity to speak <u>briefly</u> once only to the specific recommendation. When all recommendations are completed the Chairman intends to summarize briefly the nature of discussion or agreement or disagreement sufficient to assist SCAP/SUAB in their considerations on September 13. Senators may also submit their own written comments directly to the Chairmen of SCAP and SUAB.

The recommendations I - VIII inclusive are summarized on the following two pages.

### SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

### MEMORANDUM

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|----------|
|          |
| 19, 1978 |
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RECOMMENDATION I

That secondary school applicants be required to present a Grade 11 physical, or life, science (i.e. Giology 11, Physics 11, Chemistry 11, or Earth Science 11) in addition to Algebra 11.

RECOMMENDATION II

That secondary school applicants be required to present French 11, or a foreign language 11, for admission.

Note: A student may be allowed to present fluency in a native language, or another foreign language (nor presently on the Ministry of Education Arts and Science list). Any student wishing to take advantage of this option should contact the Office of Admissions for further details.

RECOMMENDATION 111

That B.C. Secondary School students be required to present four academic 12-level subjects (including English 12) for admission.

RECOMMENDATION IV

That, normally, students must present an overall average of C+, or 2.5, on the four (4) academic 12-level subjects (including English 12).

RECOMMENDATION V

That students be allowed to select their academic 12-level subjects from the Arts and Science list as approved by the Ministry of Education.

RECOMMENDATION VI

That students admitted directly from secondary school with a grade in English 12 below C, be required to register in English 010 in their first semester and obtain credit in English 010 within the first three semesters at SFU.

Records of students who do not meet this requirement will be reviewed by SUAB.

RECOMMENDATION VII

That the preceding admission requirements, if approved, be effective for admission to the 1981 Fall Semester, but not be applied retroactively.

RECOMMENDATION VIII

For applicants graduating in 1980 that, normally, they must present an overall average of C+, or 2.5 on the three (3) academic 12-level subjects (including English 12). Applicants whose overall average on the three (3) academic 12-level subjects is between C and C+ will be considered for admission by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board.

# PROPOSAL FOR NEW ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR B.C. SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES

### INTRODUCTION

By September, 1981, the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria will have phased in various changes in their admission requirements. (See Appendix I). The Admission, Transfer and Academic Standing policies of Simon Fraser University are based on the Ellis Report which was accepted by Senate in 1970. No major changes have been made since that date and the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board has been doing a review of our admission policies keeping in mind the following considerations:--

1. There must be some assurance that students entering Simon Fraser University from secondary schools are prepared for studies at university level. Along with this will go the assurance to faculty that they may expect a given level of preparation from the students they are teaching.

This expectation must be reconciled with the considerable body of evidence that some students who have not done well in secondary school, particularly in the final years, are capable of doing very good undergraduate and graduate work.

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The Committee did not wish to exclude all such students from direct access to a university education.

- 2. A second problem which SUAB faced was to indicate to our colleagues, to other universities and most particularly to students in the secondary schools through their counsellors, that the admission requirements for the British Columbia universities are comparable, in spite of some seeming, but not real, differences. This approach has been labelled as a 'public relations approach' on the one hand, and, on the other, as being an 'unnecessary justification' for what is being recommended.
- 3. The course requirements which are being suggested must be ones which the student can satisfy without too much difficulty from the list of courses approved by the Ministry of Education for secondary schools. (See Appendix II). It is recognized, however, that some of the smaller, or more isolated secondary schools, may not be able to provide the whole range of courses listed by the Ministry of Education. SUAB will consider such problems as they arise.
- 4. Both the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria allow students to select their courses from the Arts and Science list approved by the Ministry of Education. Although

SUAB is making a similar recommendation, it is with the understanding that if there is any question as to the status of a course which is being added to the list, that that course may be reviewed for Senate by SUAB. There are three courses which SUAB will be reviewing; Western Civilisation 12, Geometry 12 and Probability and Statistics 12.

- 5. SUAB was very much aware of the difference between admitting students to a particular faculty as is done at the University of British Columbia, and admitting them to the University as at Simon Fraser. In the latter instance, the admission requirements must be flexible enough to allow a student to change from one faculty, or discipline, to another after having been admitted to the University.
- 6. No change is recommended in the C+ level of secondary school qualifications of students from schools outside of British Columbia

### CURRENT SFU ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Currently students are admitted from B.C. Secondary Schools provided they have achieved graduation on the Combined, or Selected Studies Programme, with standing in Algebra 11, English 12, and two additional academic 12-level subjects selected from: English Literature 12, Geography 12, History 12, Geology 12, Language(s) 12, Algebra 12, Science(s) 12. On English 12 and the two additional 12-level subjects, a minimum overall average of 2.0, or C, is required.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

In December, the SUAB struck a sub-committee to investigate revisions to the admission requirements. The sub-committee met on four occasions before making a recommendation to the full committee. The SUAB has discussed the proposal for revisions to the existing admission requirements at several meetings, the results of which are contained in the following recommendations:--

### RECOMMENDATION I

That secondary school applicants be required to present a Grade 11 physical, or life, science (ie: Biology 11, Physics 11, Chemistry 11, or Earth Science 11) in addition to Algebra 11.

### RECOMMENDATION II

That secondary school applicants be required to present French 11, or a foreign language 11, for admission.

NOTE: A student may be allowed to present

fluency in a native language, or another foreign language (not presently on the Ministry of Education Arts and Science list). Any student wishing to take advantage of this option should contact the Office of Admissions for further details.

### RECOMMENTATION III

That B.C. Secondary School students be required to present four academic 12-level subjects (including English 12) for admission.

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATIONS I, II AND III

It is the desire of the Committee to encourage students to have a stronger and broader academic background than at present. The recommendations to include a Science 11 and French, or a foreign language 11 and an additional academic 12, are seen as fulfilling these objectives.

The sub-committee studied the academic background of a sample group of current SFU students and these data indicate that many students entering SFU already possess one or more of these Grade 11 requirements. Of a sample group (142) admitted to SFU, 76% held standing in Biology 11 and 68% held standing in French 11. The percentage who entered with standing in the other sciences were Chemistry 11 (73%) and Physics 11 (54%).

Knowledge of a second language is seen as important and further, the committee felt that the second language requirement should not be limited to the Ministry of Education list. Students presenting a native, or a foreign language not on the Ministry of Education list must complete all requirements for secondary school graduation. Evidence of fluency in another language must be documented and certified by an appropriate authority.

### RECOMMENDATION IV

That, normally, students must present an overall average of C+, or 2.5, on the four (4) academic 12-level subjects (including English 12).

Applicants whose overall average on the four (4) academic 12-level subjects is between C and C+ will be considered for admission by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board.

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION IV

The Committee wishes to ensure that the academic environment at Simon Fraser University is attractive to the bright secondary school graduates. Although there is no desire to attempt to emulate

our sister institutions in the Province, we do not wish to become the residual institution, either in appearance, or in reality. Recommendation IV raises our average for admission to the same level as both the University of B.C. and the University of Victoria, although the courses used for calculation will continue to differ among the three institutions. The provision to allow the SUAB to review and admit deserving individuals whose averages are between C and C+ will also be consistent with the other universities, and with data of SFU student performance. (See Appendix III). The provision to consider the student in the C to C+ range will serve two purposes:--

- It will allow a transitional period for the new requirements.
- It will ensure that the University does not exclude students who show academic promise, although they do not have a C+ average.

### RECOMMENDATION V

That students be allowed to select their academic 12-level subjects from the Arts and Science list as approved by the Ministry of Education.

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION V

The courses contained in the Arts and Science list are considered by the Ministry to be preparation for college and university bound students. The courses from which we currently allow students to select their academic 12 subjects have not differed from the Arts and Science list until recently. The addition by the Ministry of three courses to the list has created the difference. The SUAB feels confident that the courses in the Arts and Science list are appropriate for university entrance. The Board has been made aware of the fact that some confusion has arisen at the secondary school level, because we do not currently allow students to select from all courses in the Arts and Science list, whereas the other two universities do recognize the full list.

### RECOMMENDATION VI

That students admitted directly from secondary school with a grade in English 12 below C, be required to register in English 010 in their first semester and obtain credit in English 010 within the first three semesters at SFU.

Records of students who do not meet this requirement will be reviewed by SUAB.

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION VI

With reference to the request of the English Department that a C+ in English 12 be required for admission, the committee rejected the idea of requiring a specified minimum grade in any one subject. In particular, they did not wish to eliminate students who may be strong in areas other than English.

It was noted that of the 142 students sampled, 15 entered SFU with a grade of P in English 12. Their cumulative grade point averages show that all but one was successful in current studies.

| Cumulative | G.P.A. | <u>N</u> |
|------------|--------|----------|
| 3.0 to     | 3.49   | 1        |
| 2.5 to     | 3.0    | 4        |
| 2.0 to     | 2.49   | 9        |
| 1 0 to     | 1 99   | · 1      |

Eight students in this group have completed eleven English courses with the following results: 3 B's, 1 B-, 1 C+, 1 C, 1 C-, and four (4) credits in English 010.

The second report considered by the committee had been prepared in the Office of the Associate Academic Vice-President. It shows the way in which

High School English grades are distributed among the categories of grade points from 1.00 to 4.00 for students who entered SFU in the Fall semesters for the years 1970 to 1976, inclusive. Of the 5056 students admitted, 138 (3%) had a grade of P (1.0) in English 12 and 852 (17%) had a grade of C (2.0).

These data on their own show that 80% of students admitted from Grade 12 have C+, or better, grades in English. In addition, the latest report on the results of the English tests given in Grade 12 indicate that the standard has been raised considerably. (See Appendix IV).

### RECOMMENDATION VII

That the preceding admission requirements, if approved, be effective for admission to the 1981 Fall Semester, but not be applied retroactively

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION VII

It is felt that this period should allow students adequate time to select appropriate Grade 10 courses to meet the new requirements.

### RECOMMENDATION VIII

For applicants graduating in 1980 that, normally, they must present an overall average of C+, or

2.5 on the three (3) academic 12-level subjects (including English 12). Applicants whose overall average on the three (3) academic 12-level subjects is between C and C+ will be considered for admission by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board.

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION VIII

The increased grade level requirement is consistent with the new requirements being proposed for 1981 and should not create any hardship for students planning their secondary school programs.

A. UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (1978/79 CALENDAR)

The minimum academic qualification for admission to the University is Senior Secondary School Graduation.

A C+ average will be required, with borderline applicants being considered on an assessment of their capacity for success in university studies as determined by the Senate Admissions Committee.

The C+ average will be calculated on the ten courses which have the highest gradings. These shall include English 11, English 12, Social Studies 11, and all prescribed subjects for the university studies being sought. Remaining courses will include recommended subjects and, if necessary, subjects relevant to the study program for which application is being made. Where courses which are not relevant must be included in the calculation they will in general be chosen from among courses numbered "12". (See the publication "Admissions Guide" for listing of prescribed and recommended subjects.)

### Changes in Admission Requirements

- (a) for Winter Sessions 1979-80, and 1980-81
  - included in the ten-course calculation must be three courses numbered "12" selected from the "Arts and Science" category in the secondary school curriculum.
- (b) for Winter Session 1981-82
  - secondary school graduation must include the following ten courses:
    - 1 English 11
    - 2 English 12
    - 3 Social Studies 11

- 4 Algebra (Mathematics) 11
- 5 French 11 or a foreign language 11
- 6 a Science 11

7-8-9-10. four courses, from the "Arts and Science" category of the secondary school curriculum three of which must be numbered "12".

NOTE 1. Applicants who because of administrative difficulties in their schools cannot present the courses as required, may be excused the specific deficiency on petition (for reasonable cause) by the principal of the school concerned. In these cases other courses will be substituted in the calculation of standing.

Advance credit will be considered for admission, in general, on university-level studies.

B. UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (1978-79 CALENDAR)

The requirement for admission to the University in 1978-79 is graduation from senior secondary school, as prescribed by the Ministry of Education of the Province of British Columbia, with a minimum overall average of C+ in:

- (i) English 12 plus two courses selected from the following:
  Algebra 12, Biology 12, Chemistry 12, French 12, Geography 12,
  Geology 12, Geometry 12, German 12, History 12, Latin 12,
  Literature 12, Mathematics 12, Physics 12, Probability and
  Statistics 12, Spanish 12, Western Civilization 12, and any
  other Grade XII Arts & Science course approved by the Ministry
  of Education;
- (11) Algebra 11\*, and one Science 11 or one Language 11 course;
- (iii)English 11 and Social Studies 11;
- (iv) Any four additional Grade XI or Grade XII courses (other than P.E. and Guidance 11).

Applicants whose overall average is between C and C+ will be considered for admission by the Senate Committee on Admission and Re-registration which will make a general assessment, based primarily upon performance in academic subjects, of their capacity for success at the University.

Although normally all applicants will be required to meet (ii) above, graduates lacking this requirement may be considered for admission to certain programmes. Such applicants are invited to apply in the normal way making sure that they state their choice of programme.



Courses

# CURRICULUM ORGANIZATION CHART POR BRITISH COLUMBIA SEMIOR SECHNDARY SCHOOLS (1978)

| 1.                            |  | English II, Eng  | GENERAL EDUCATION 11184 12, Social St | GENERAL EDUCATION CONSTANTS (Required of all students) sh 12, Social Studies 11, Physical and Health Educatio | of all of<br>Health                     | GENERAL EDUCATION CONSTANTS (Required of all students) English 11, English 12, Social Studies 11, Physical and Health Education and Guidence 11 |             |           | •       |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|-------------|-----------|---------|
| 2.                            | S PROC   | SELECTED STUDIES<br>PROCRAIS REQUIREMENTS                                  | No. of<br>Courses                     | 10  |   | COMBILED STUDIES PROCLAMS EDQUINIMENTS  |             | # E       |         |
| ٠.                            | (a) & court<br>groupfe                               | (a) 6 centees selected from one<br>grouping in the chart below             | •                                     |   | . £                                     | * 5 - 7 courses exacted from<br>the chart below   | 8           |           |         |
|                               | (b) 2 courses<br>from the<br>(a) above               | a <u>E</u>   | 8                                     |   | e = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = | 3 courses marketed 12 selected<br>from the chart below  | 3           | n         |         |
|                               | (c) I course num<br>from any gro<br>chart below      | AND (c) I course numbered 12 selected from any grouping in the chart below | •••                                   |   |   |   |             |           |         |
|                               | - 1 • (P)  | AND (d) * 1 - 3 additional courses   | 1 - 3                                 |   | <del>i</del>                            |   |             |           |         |
|                               | Total of Courses<br>(A Minimum of 8 (for Graduation) | Total of Courses Selected (A Minimus of 8 courses required for Graduation) | 8 - 10                                |   | Total<br>(A Min<br>for G                | Total of Courses Selected<br>(A Minimum of 8 courses required<br>for Graduation)  |             | 0 -       | 01 - 4  |
|                               |  |  | TOTAL OF COURSES (                    | TOTAL OF COURSES (A MINIMUM OF 12) REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION  | RED FOR G                               | RADUATION   |             |           | 12 - 14 |
| ARTS AND<br>SCIENCE           | Q. a   | COMMERCIAL   | INDUSTRIAL                            | COMPUNITY   |   | VISUAL AND<br>PERPONITIES ARTS  | ACRICULTURE | TORE      |         |
| Wr 11,                        | Lie 12<br>Fr 12                                      | Ty 11<br>Sh 11A  | Drf 11, Orf 12<br>Car 11, Car 12      | 12 Fd 11, Fd 12A  | <u> </u>                                | AF 11, AF 12  | ±:          | 2:        |         |
| Ge 11,                        |  | Sh 118<br>OP 12  | · •                                   |   | <u>-</u><br>مر                          |   | 100         | . Tech 12 |         |
| Le 12,<br>Sp 11,              | . BLa 11<br>. Sp 12                                  |  | <u>"</u> =                            | 12  | . <u></u>                               | GCom 11, GCom 12  |             | CB 12     |         |
| 8Sp 11<br>81t 11,             | . BRu 11   | BK 11, BK 12   | TNs 11<br>GB 11, GB 12                | CC 12   |   | He 11, He 12<br>Cho 11, Cho 12  |             | -         |         |
| AIR II.                       | Alg 11, Alg 12<br>CSc 11, PrSt 12                    | Ac 12<br>GB 11, GB 12  |                                       | ConNa 11  | 71                                      | • '   |             |           |         |
| B1 11,                        | Geom 12<br>Bf 11, Bf 12                              | Conta 11   |                                       |   | <del></del>                             | Act 11, Act 12<br>St 11, St 12  |             |           |         |
| Ch 11.<br>Ph 11.<br>ESC 11    | Ch 11, Ch 12<br>Ph 11, Ph 12<br>ESc 11, Geol 12      |  |                                       | •   |   | Th 11, WD 12<br>GB 12, WF 11<br>WCIY 12   |             | _         |         |
| Ec 11, 1<br>Geo 12<br>WCfv 12 | Ec 11, Law 11<br>Geo 12, Ht 13<br>WCtv 12            |  |                                       |   |   |   |             | ***       |         |

\* All courses commerced it, 11A, 11B, 12, 12A, 12B and locally developed courses (menimum - 2) may be seize for provided that they do not replace the selected courses numbered 12.

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

# ARTS AND SCIENCE LIST

(Complete Course Titles)

| Writing 11<br>French 11             | Literature 12<br>French 12                 |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Beginners' German 11<br>German 11   | German 12                                  |
| Beginners Latin 11<br>Latin 11      | Latin 12                                   |
| Beginners' Spanish 11<br>Spanish 11 | Spanish 12                                 |
| Beginners' Italian 11               |  |
| Beginners' Russian 11<br>Algebra 11 | Algebra 12                                 |
| Computing Science 11                | Probability & Statistics 12<br>Geometry 12 |
| Biology 11                          | Biology 12                                 |
| Chemistry 11                        | Chemistry 12                               |
| Physics 11                          | Physics 12                                 |
| Earth Science 11                    | Geology 12                                 |
|                                     | Geography 12                               |
| Economics 11                        | History 12                                 |
| Law 11                              | Western Civilisation 12                    |

# Report on Simon Fraser University Graduates and Undergraduates 65/3 - 77/3 inclusive

Relationship between High School Average and S.F.U. Cumulative Grade Point Average

### Definitions

### High School Average

A & B - 3.00 - 4.00 or 75.0 to 99.9 C+ - 2.50 - 2.99 or 65.0 to 74.9 C or less 0.00 - 2.49 or 0.0 to 64.9

### Simon Fraser Grades as shown on Students' Permanent Records

A - 4.00

B - 3.00 - 3.99

C - 2.00 - 2.99

D - 1.00 - 1.99

F - .00 - .99

Withdrawals - represent formal withdrawals only when "withdrawal" is the last comment on the permanent record.

### S.F.U. Undergraduates

# Comparison of S.F.U. Cumulative Grade Point Average and B.C. High School Averages

65/3 - 77/3 Inclusive

| GPA<br>High →<br>GPA School<br>S.F.U. | ,<br>,<br>, | C+    | C or<br>less | Total         | High<br>School<br>Average<br>Not<br>Recorded* | Total<br>Of<br>All SFU<br>Under-<br>graduates |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------|--------------|---------------|---|---|
|                                       |             |       |              |               |   |   |
| Α                                     | 63          | 39    | 37           | 139           | 766   | 905   |
| В                                     | 1,760       | 991   | 646          | <b>3,3</b> 97 | 4,114   | 7,511   |
| С                                     | 1,573       | 2,705 | 2,393        | 6,671         | 3,532   | 10,203  |
| D                                     | 272         | 927   | 1,336        | 2,535         | 1,176   | 3,711   |
| F                                     | 49          | 189   | 455          | 693           | 322   | 1,015   |
| Sub-<br>Total                         | 3,717       | 4,851 | 4,867        | 13,435        | 9,910   | 23,345  |
| With-<br>Drew                         | 709         | 1,087 | 1,168        | 2,964         | 2,507   | 5,471   |
| TOTAL                                 | 4,426       | 5,938 | 6,035        | 16,399        | 12,417  | 2 <b>8,</b> 816                               |
| Average<br>Cum. GPA                   | 2.84        | 2.40  | 2.12         | -             | -   | 2.55  |

 $<sup>\</sup>chi^2$  1877.2128

DF 8 - Probability .0045

<sup>\*</sup> High School Average is not usually available for transfer students, Mature students, specials, foreign students etc.

### S.F.U. Graduates

# Comparison of S.F.U. Cumulative Grade Point Average and High School Averages

65/3 - 77/3 Inclusive

| GPA<br>High<br>GPA School<br>S.F.U | → A&B | C+    | C or<br>less | Total | High<br>School<br>Average<br>Not *<br>Recorded | Total<br>Of<br>All<br>S.F.U.<br>Graduates |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------------|-------|--|---|
| Α                                  | 44    | 34    | 29           | 107   | 30   | 137                                       |
| В                                  | 732   | 678   | 457          | 1,867 | 975  | 2,842                                     |
| С                                  | 283   | 785   | 1,057        | 2,125 | 900  | 3,025                                     |
| D                                  | 4     | 15    | 39           | 58    | 36   | 94**                                      |
| F                                  | -     | -1    | 1            | 2     | 1  | 3**                                       |
| TOTAL                              | 1,063 | 1,513 | 1,583        | 4,159 | 1,942  | 6,101                                     |
| Average<br>Cum. GPA                | 3.20  | 2.93  | 2.74         | -     | -  | 2.94                                      |

 $<sup>\</sup>times \chi^2$ 464.9792 DF 8 - Probability 0.000

<sup>\*</sup>High School Average is not usually available for transfer students, mature students, specials, foreign students etc.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Students graduating with a cumulative GPA less than 2.00 have graduated with a "graduation GPA" by taking enough extra courses to reach the necessary average.



Ministry of Education

Appendix IV

For Release: 78-03-16

### Improvement in English Composition Scholarship Examinations

Grade 12 English teachers and their scholarship students have been commended by Education Minister Dr. Pat McGeer. Eighty-two per cent of the students who wrote the British Columbia Government scholarship examinations at the January sittings achieved an acceptable passing standard.

This compares to only 68 per cent a year ago.

"These results indicate a marked improvement in the levels of student achievement in English," Dr. McGeer said.
"We believe this to be the result of school principals and teachers placing a greater emphasis on the teaching of English, perhaps because of the volume of criticism from the universities and from the public about previous levels of competence."

Graduating grade 12 students who try for the \$500 government scholarships must write the English examination, and a minimum of three others of the student's choice.

The English examination, which tests general knowledge and skills and is not based on specific secondary school courses, is a demanding one which requires students to demonstrate their ability to write sentences, paragraphs and essays.

Of the 3,036 students who wrote the examination, 2,403 were successful while 533 were unsuccessful.

Dr. McGeer said the success is attributable to teachers because there is no significant change in the examination itself and no known change in the ability of the students. Standards of marking, which is done by a team of 52 qualified English teachers, are consistently high, with the degree of consistency constantly checked by statistical analysis.

"It is most encouraging to note how well teachers and students have responded to the general concern for high standards of literacy," the minister said. "Schools have in the past been the subject of some criticism, perhaps not unjustified. I am delighted to be able to publicly commend them this year for what I consider to be a significant improvement.

"I would hope that the high quality of teaching these students have received will be continued at the university Given good preparation, good teaching and good examinations, there should be no excuse for the continuation of abnormally high failure rates in first-year English at university."

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Contact: Seth Halton, Information Officer, Information Services. Ministry of Education, Parliament Buildings.

387-5041

# SELECTED STATISTICS IN RELATION TO SUAB PROPOSAL FOR NEW ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR B.C. SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES

Data on students admitted to S.F.U. from B.C. Secondary Schools in recent years are summarized in Tables 1 through 3. Data relating to the specific SUAB recommendations are presented in Tables 4 to 7. These later data are based on a sample group of 87 current S.F.U. students.

The following data have been derived from these tables.

- 1. HOW MANY STUDENTS DO WE ADMIT FROM B.C. SECONDARY SCHOOLS? In 1977/78 academic year, 27.6% of new students were admitted from B.C. Grade 12.
- 2. HOW MANY OF THESE STUDENTS HAVE SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADE POINT AVERAGES LESS THAN 2.5? In 1977/78, 28.1% had averages less than 2.5 and 71.9% had averages greater than or equal to 2.5.
- 3. HOW MANY OF THESE STUDENTS HAVE SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADE 12 ENGLISH GRADES LESS THAN 2.0? In 1977/78, 2.7% had English 12 grades less than 2.0; 97.3% had English 12 grades greater than or equal to 2.0.
- 4. HOW MANY STUDENTS MEET THE RECOMMENDED REQUIREMENTS? In a random sample or 87 students from B.C. Grade 12, 30 students, or 34.5%, had all course requirements plus a 2.5 average on 4 academic 12 level subjects.
- 5. HOW DO THE OLD S.F.U., NEW S.F.U., NEW U.B.C., AND NEW U.VIC. METHODS OF CALCULATING SECONDARY SCHOOL G.P.A.'S COMPARE?

  Based on a random sample of 87 students from B.C. Grade 12, students' G.P.A.'s were calculated using each of the above methods with the following results:

Old S.F.U. method
New S.F.U. method
New U.B.C. method
New U.VIC. method
2.99 H.S. G.P.A.
3.04 H.S. G.P.A.
2.95 H.S. G.P.A.

S.F.U. rounds the secondary school G.P.A. calculation to one decimal place. All of the above methods for calculating this average round to 3.0.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS ADMITTED TO S.F.U. BY CATEGORY OF ADMISSION BETWEEN 1973 AND 1978

TABLE 1

| 1.7 246 1.3 5,445 28.2 19,301 | 28.2 | 5,445      | 1.3          | 246     | 1.7                        | ,9 325 | 0.9                                 | 169             | 16.8  | 9.8 3,244 16.8 169 | 9.8                    | 1,888       | 14.6        | 2,813              | 26.8 | 5,171            | 1973/1978 5,171 26.8 2,813 14.6 1,888 |
|-------------------------------|------|------------|--------------|---------|----------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 4,141                         | 24.7 | 1,022 24.7 | 1:1          | 44      | 1.8                        | 74     | 0.7                                 | 30              | 18.0  | 746                | 7.2                    | 300         | 18.9        | 783                | 27.6 | 1,142            | 1977/78                               |
| 4,186                         | 25.9 | 1,083      | 1.3          | 56      | 1.8                        | 75     | 1.2                                 | 49              | 16.6  | 693                | 8.3                    | 347         | 16.8        | 704                | 28.2 | 1,179            | 1976/77                               |
| 4,289                         | 27.4 | 1,175 27.4 | 1.1          | 46      | 1.5                        | .65    | 1.1                                 | 48              | 18.3  | 784                | 10.7                   | 458         | 15.6        | 668                | 24.4 | 1,045            | 1975/76                               |
| 3,664                         | 30.6 | 1,123      | 1.4          | 52      | 1.5                        | 55     | 0.6                                 | 22              | 16.6  | 610                | 12.5                   | 457         | 11.0        | 403                | 25.7 | 942              | 974/75                                |
| 3,021                         | 34.5 | 1,042 34.5 | 1.6          | 48      | 1.9                        | 56     | 0.7                                 | 20              | 13.6  | 411                | 10.8                   | 326         | 8.4         | 255                | 28.6 | 863              | (973/74                               |
| Total                         | ₩ *  | , Other *  | Out-of-Prov. | # Out X | For Equiv.<br>GD. 12 or 13 | For :  | F ADMISSION Tech. Sch. Transfer # % | Y OF AI<br>Tecl | CATEGORY OF ADMISS College Tech.Sch Transfer Transfer # % # 9 | Col.               | University<br>Transfer | Univ<br>Tra | ure<br>ents | Mature<br>Students | e 12 | B.C.<br>Grade 12 | Year of Admission to:SFU              |
|                               |      |            |              |         |                            |        |                                     |                 |   |                    |                        |             |             |                    |      |                  |                                       |

<sup>\*</sup>OTHER includes the following categories with approximate percentages in parentheses: Special Students-PDP (5%), Special Students Non-PDP (10%), Grade 13 (1%), Grade 13 + additional work (.3%), Early Admission Grade 12 (.1%), Early Entry Grade 11 (.1%), Special Entry A (4%), Special Entry B (2%), Visiting Student (2%), Qualifying Student (.7%), ICB Student (3%).

QAS 78-09-11

TABLE 2

HIGH SCHOOL AVERAGE OF STUDENTS ADMITTED

S.F.U. FROM B.C. GRADE 12

| Year of Admission<br>To S.F.U. | H.S<br>Number of<br>Students | . G.P.A. < 2.5 Percent | H.S.<br>Number of<br>Students | G.P.A.≥2.5<br>Percent |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1973/74                        | 257                          | 30.0                   | 601                           | 70.0                  |
| 1974/75                        | 277                          | 29.6                   | 659                           | 70.4                  |
| 1975/76                        | 281                          | 27.3                   | 750                           | 72.7                  |
| 1976/77                        | 306                          | 26.2                   | 863                           | 73.8                  |
| 1977/78                        | 316                          | 28.1                   | 810                           | 71.9                  |
|                                |                              |                        |                               | ·                     |

<sup>\*</sup>Based on three academic-12 level subjects including English 12.

TABLE 3

COMPARISON OF S.F.U. CUM. G.P.A. AND B.C. HIGH SCHOOL G.P.A. FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO S.F.U. IN 1975/76

| High School | Number of<br>Students | Number<br>With * |        | Universit   | y CUM. GPA<br>Percent | at 30 Credi<br>of Student |                                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| G.P.A.      | Admitted              | 30 Hours         | 0-1.99 | 2.00-2.49   | 2.50-2.99             | 3.00-3.49                 | 3.50-4.00                             |
|             | -                     |                  |        | <del></del> |                       | ······                    | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| 4 2.5       | 281                   | 140              | 19.3   | 40.0        | 27.1                  | 12.1                      | 1.4                                   |
| ≥ 2.5       | 750                   | 489              | 3.7    | 26.2        | 33.1                  | 28.8                      | 8.2                                   |
|             |                       |                  |        |             |                       |                           |                                       |

To be included a student must have reached or surpassed 30 credits by the end of semester 78-1. The student's Cum. G.P.A. is at the end of the semester in which he reached 30 credits.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH COURSE REQUIREMENTS
RECOMMENDED BY SUAB

| Recommended<br>Requirements  | Number of<br>Students | Percent of Total<br>Sample (N=87) |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Students possessing all course requirements  | 39                    | 44.8                              |
| Students with 4 academic 12's, and Algebra 11, and Science 11 or French 11 (or Foreign Language 11 | ) 62                  | 71.3                              |
| Students with 4 academic 12's and Algebra 11 and Science 11  | 53                    | 60.9                              |
| Students with Algebra 11, and<br>Science 11 and French 11 (or<br>Foreign Language 11)              | 47                    | 54.0                              |
| Students with 4 academic 12's, and Algebra 11  | 4                     | 4.6                               |
| Students with Algebra 11 and<br>Science 11   | -<br>2                | 2.3                               |
| Students with 4 academic 12's  | 1                     | 1.1                               |
| Students with no requirements  | 1                     | 1.1                               |
| ,  |                       |                                   |

TABLE 5

# NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH 2.5 AVERAGE RECOMMENDED BY SUAB

| Requirement   | Number of<br>Students | Percent                             |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2.5 Average on 4 academic<br>12's (can be calculated for<br>only 67 students) | 50                    | 74.6 (of 67 students)               |
| 2.5 Average <u>plus</u> all course requirements                               | 30                    | 34.5 (of total sample, 87 students) |

TABLE 6

# UNIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT OF STUDENTS WITH AND WITHOUT RECOMMENDED ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

|   | S.F.U. Cum.G.P.A. at End of Semester in Which<br>Student Has Attained 30 (or More) Credits |             |  |
|---|--|-------------|--|
|   | Number of Students   | Cum. G.P.A. |  |
| Students with all course requirements and 2.5 average on 4 academic 12's        | ge<br>26   | 2.89        |  |
| Students missing one or mocourse requirements or 2.5 average on 4 academic 12's |  | 2.45        |  |
| Students with H.S. G.P.A. academic 12's less than 2.5                           | on 4   | 1.98        |  |
| Students with H.S. G.P.A. of academic 12's greater the or equal to 2.5          | •  | 2.83        |  |

CALCULATIONS OF HIGH SCHOOL AVERAGE ACCORDING

TABLE 7

# TO CRITERIA OF THE THREE B.C. UNIVERSITIES

| Number of<br>Students | H.S.<br>G.P.A. | Rounded to<br>One Decimal     |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 87                    | 2.99           | 3.0                           |
| 67                    | 2.98           | 3.0                           |
| 38                    | 3.04           | 3.0                           |
| 40                    | 2.95           | 3.0                           |
|                       | 87<br>67<br>38 | 87 2.99<br>67 2.98<br>38 3.04 |