

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: D. Gagan, Chair *David Gagan*
Senate Committee on Academic Planning

Subject: Graduate Regulation 1.3.6 -
Admission as a Special Student
(Reference: GS.96.19
Reference: SCAP 96-64)

Date: December 9, 1996

Action undertaken by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee and the Senate Committee on Academic Planning gives rise to the following motion:

Motion:

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.97 - 11, the revisions to Graduate Regulation 1.3.6 - Admission as a Special Student."

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Alison Watt, Secretary
Senate Committee on Academic
Planning

From: B.P. Clayman
Vice-President Research/
Dean of Graduate Studies

Subject: Special Student Status

Date: November 21, 1996

Present:

1.3.5 Admission as a Special Student

Normally, a Special Student at the graduate level is a person who has at least a Bachelors degree, or the equivalent, who wishes to take specified courses but is not seeking a degree from this University.

Transcripts of previous university work (or proof of obtaining a degree) will be required at the time of application, but letters of reference will not necessarily be required. Application may be through the Graduate Program Committee in the department in which the student wishes to work or through the Dean of Graduate Studies. Permission is required from the instructor in each course.

No credit will be given towards any degree offered by the University for courses taken as a Special Student except, under unusual circumstances, on petition to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee.

Proposed:

1.3.6 Admission as a Special Student

Normally, a Special Student at the graduate level is a person who has at least a Bachelors degree, or the equivalent, who wishes to take specified courses, but is not seeking a degree from this University. A Special Student will not be permitted to enroll only in under-graduate courses.

Transcripts of previous university work (or proof of obtaining a degree) will be required at the time of application, but letters of reference will not necessarily be required. Application may be through the Graduate Program Committee in the department in which the student wishes to work. Permission is required from the instructor in each course.

No credit will be given towards any degree offered by the University for courses taken as a Special Student except, under unusual circumstances, on petition to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee.



B.P. Clayman
Vice-President Research/
Dean of Graduate Studies

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OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Memorandum

TO: Graduate Program Chairs

FROM: Bruce P. Clayman
Dean of Graduate Studies

SUBJECT: Special Student Status

DATE: September 29, 1996

I have copied below the graduate regulation defining Special Student status:

1.3.6 Admission as a Special Student

Normally, a Special Student at the graduate level is a person who has at least a Bachelors degree, or the equivalent, who wishes to take specified courses but is not seeking a degree from this University.

Transcripts of previous university work (or proof of obtaining a degree) will be required at the time of application, but letters of reference will not necessarily be required. Application may be through the Graduate Program Committee in the department in which the student wishes to work or through the Dean of Graduate Studies. Permission is required from the instructor in each course.

No credit will be given towards any degree offered by the University for courses taken as a Special Student except, under unusual circumstances, on petition to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee.

To my considerable surprise, recently there have been cases where students attempted to register as Special Graduate Students in order to enroll in only undergraduate courses. I had thought that the presence of this regulation in the graduate section of the Calendar would have been sufficiently clear as to the intent. I have also noted that no students have applied through my office in the last 11 years, so inclusion of this route of application is clearly unnecessary.

To remedy these (admittedly minor) problems, I am taking the following actions:

1. Effectively immediately, Special Graduate Students may normally enroll only in graduate courses. Consideration of requests for exceptions to the 'normally' will require explicit justification. **In no case will they be permitted to enroll only in undergraduate courses.**
2. I shall bring to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee at the next meeting the following motion to clarify the intent of the calendar language and to remove ambiguity about the locus of application.

That paragraph one of graduate regulation 1.3.6. be changed to read: 'Normally, a Special Student at the graduate level is a person who has at least a Bachelors degree, or the equivalent, who wishes to take specified graduate courses, but is not seeking a degree from this University. In no case will a Special Student be permitted to enroll only in undergraduate courses.' And that the second sentence of paragraph two of graduate regulation 1.3.6. be modified to end with the word 'work.'

I look forward to discussion at the next meeting of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee.

c. M. McGinn (for immediate distribution)
P.M. Wrenn

