

# SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.82-92

## MEMORANDUM

SENATE

From..... SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE  
STUDIES.....

Subject..... PROPOSED UNIVERSITY HONOR ROLL -  
(PAPER SCUS 82-26 AND UPDATES).....

Date..... 16 SEPTEMBER 1982.....

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of September 14, 1982 gives rise to the following motion:

"That Senate approve, as forth in S.82-92,

- 1) that a limited number of students be admitted each semester to the University Honor Roll, mainly on the basis of excellent work completed in the previous semester,
- 2) that this be shown on the student's permanent record,
- 3) that the criteria - University Honor Roll be
  - i) Students must have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours at SFU by the end of the semester being evaluated for Honor Roll selections
  - ii) Only students completing at least 12 semester hours of credit in the semester are eligible
  - iii) Minimum semester g.p.a. 4.00 calculated on all normally graded courses completed in the semester
  - iv) Minimum cumulative g.p.a. 3.60"

# SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

SCUS 82-26A  
as amended by  
SCUS Sept. 14/82  
and revised

## MEMORANDUM

To..... SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE  
STUDIES

From..... H. M. EVANS  
N. HEATH

Subject..... PROPOSED UNIVERSITY HONOR ROLL  
(PAPER SCUS 82-26 AND UPDATES).

Date..... 13 SEPTEMBER 1982.

1. The Senate Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries has submitted comment on the above-mentioned proposal.
2. It will be noted that there are a number of options from which selection could be made to establish the ground rules for an Honor Roll. SCUS with full input from SCSAB is being charged with determining the recommendations to be made to Senate.

The SCSAB paper suggests that the Honor Roll criteria should follow relatively closely the scholarship criteria. The paper SCUS 82-26 (revised) uses different criteria but these do not conflict. The proposed Honor Roll expects high quality results in a given semester, with a reasonably high cum. GPA; it expects the competition to be held each semester, with transcript notation on each successful semester. It does not require continuous results over each semester, unlike the scholarship requirements of SCSAB. The SCUS paper represents a short race under load of at least 12 hours. The SCSAB paper allows for much longer races with possibility of evaluation on different semester loads over a longer time period and those awards generally relate to past success to be paid for over the following three semesters.

A number of other comments can be made. There are certain advantages and disadvantages to each system. The community must decide.

Further data may be provided in discussion. Some data is attached now for information, as SCUS 82-26 (revised).

It is intended that the provision of an Honor Roll provide increased recognition of students and possible motivation without significant increase in administrative procedures and costs.

# SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S C U S 82-26'  
as amended by SCUS  
Sep 14/82 and revised

## MEMORANDUM

To..... SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE.....  
STUDIES

From..... H. M. EVANS.....  
N. HEATH

Subject..... PROPOSED UNIVERSITY HONOR ROLL.....

Date..... 2 SEPTEMBER 1982.....

Preparations are under way for an Annual Awards Ceremony to be first held in January, 1983 and subsequently in the Fall semester each year. At the Ceremony, several existing awards will be presented to students, faculty and staff. The intent is to include an additional recognition called the University Honor Roll, for a limited number of our undergraduate students.

Discussions have taken place between the Registrar's staff and the Director of Ceremonies on the criteria for the Honor Roll. The topic was also raised at a meeting of Deans. On August 30, 1982 the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules considered the procedures required to set up the Honor Roll. SCAR decided to refer the matter to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, to ask the Senate Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries to provide input, with recommendation to Senate to be made by September 16, 1982 to allow consideration by Senate at its meeting of October 4, 1982.

### Principles

At present the University grants recognition of academic excellence to those who graduate in Honors programs with g.p.a.s of 3.50 or higher (Honors first class) but gives no general recognition to students during their programs or, on graduation, to those in General degree programs, or diploma programs.

It is proposed

- i) That a limited number of students be admitted each semester to the University Honor Roll, mainly on the basis of excellent work completed in the previous semester.
- ii) That this be shown on the student's Permanent Record.
- iii) That the specific selection criteria be approved by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies. Some proposed criteria are given in the attached.

## CRITERIA - UNIVERSITY HONOR ROLL

In giving consideration to the introduction of a University Honor Roll at Simon Fraser University there has been general agreement that the numbers who qualify in any given semester should not be large and that excellence should be recognized. The following criteria are proposed:

- i) Students must have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours at SFU by the end of the semester being evaluated for Honor Roll selections.
- ii) Only students completing at least 12 semester hours of credit in the semester are eligible.
- iii) Minimum semester g.p.a. 4.00 calculated on all normally graded courses completed in the semester.
- iv) Minimum cumulative g.p.a. 3.60.

## RATIONALE

- i) It would be undesirable for students to be admitted to the Honor Roll on the basis of only one semester of work. This provision would require at least two semesters at SFU, enabling the cumulative average to be calculated on the basis of 30 semester hours or more.
- ii) Normal progress towards receiving a degree in 8 semesters or work demands that the semester load be 15 semester hours or greater. Many students take lighter loads and for some purposes the definition of "full-time" is variously defined as 15 semester hours, or 12 semester hours, or, for some purposes, 9 semester hours. The comparison of performance between those students taking light loads and those taking heavier loads is undesirable if it is accepted that it is more difficult to obtain excellent grades in several courses than in a few courses. The selection of 15 semester hours would conform to some definitions of full-time student. However, a number of universities, notably in the United States, use 12 semester hours for honor roll calculation.
- iii) The semester g.p.a. of 4.00 is a measure of excellent performance, being an 'A' standard. The semester g.p.a. is currently calculated and therefore no new g.p.a. will be created by using this average.

The following will indicate in greater detail the expected nature of application of the criteria.

Experience may indicate the need for some changes. The reviewing body may make adjustments in exceptional cases.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Students in any undergraduate program will be eligible (i.e. including EXD, Certificate, P.D.P./Teaching Certificate, second or subsequent undergraduate degree, Special students).

1. Minimum total credit at SFU - 30 semester hours

All undergraduate students will be eligible for the honor roll in any given semester provided that they have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours of credit by the end of that semester. This total credit will be as shown on the student's Permanent Record and will not include transfer credit. If the student has previously graduated in a degree program or completed a diploma program, the credits accumulated during that earlier program may not count toward the 30 semester hours.

2. Minimum semester g.p.a. and course load: 4.00 over 12 semester hours

The student must complete 12 semester hours or more of credit with a resulting semester g.p.a. of at least 4.00. Only courses receiving grades which have numerical equivalents may be counted, i.e. excluding courses which have received grades of CC, AE, CR, P. Calculations may be made only on the basis of final grades received by the published deadlines. Practicum courses which are assigned numerical equivalent grades (e.g. CRIM 462-15) will be excluded from the s.g.p.a. calculation. Duplicate courses will count in the semester g.p.a. only if they result in a higher grade being obtained than in any previous attempt.

3. Minimum cum. g.p.a. of 3.60

The student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.60 at the end of the semester in which his/her record is reviewed for honor roll eligibility.

TABLE 1

Various criteria considered for University Honor Roll and resulting totals of eligible students based on application of criteria to students registered in semesters 1981-Summer, 1981-Fall, 1982-Spring.

Version	81-2	81-3	82-1	Year/Total
1. i) no min total cr ii) s.g.p.a. 4.00/15 cr hrs iii) no min. c.g.p.a. iv) no other restrictions	39	41	38	118
2. i) min. total 30 cr. hrs. ii) min. s.g.p.a. 4.00/15 cr. hrs. iii) min. c.g.p.a. 3.00 iv) excludes practicum courses from s.g.p.a.	18	29	30	77
3. i) min. total 30 cr. hrs. ii) min. s.g.p.a. 4.00/15 cr. hrs. iii) min. c.g.p.a. 3.50 iv) excludes practicum courses from s.g.p.a.	11	23	27	61
4. i) min. total 30 cr. hrs. ii) min. s.g.p.a. 4.00/15 cr. hrs. iii) min. c.g.p.a. 3.60 iv) excluded practicum courses from s.g.p.a.	10	20	27	57
5. i) no min. total cr. ii) min. s.g.p.a. 4.00/12 cr. hrs. iii) no min. c.g.p.a. iv) no other restrictions	66	84	83	233
6. i) min. total 30 cr. hrs. ii) min. s.g.p.a. 4.00/12 cr. hrs. iii) min. c.g.p.a. 3.50 iv) excludes practicum courses from s.g.p.a.	n/a	n/a	n/a	144
7.* i) min. total 30 cr. hrs. ii) min. s.g.p.a. 4.00/12 cr. hrs. iii) min. c.g.p.a. 3.60 iv) excludes practicum courses from s.g.p.a.	26	37	56	119

\* Version 7 is that approved by SCUS at its meeting of September 14, 1982.