

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.71-141

MEMORANDUM

To MEMBERS OF SENATE

From B. G. WILSON, ACADEMIC VICE-PRESIDENT
& CHAIRMAN
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS BOARD

Subject AMENDMENT OF MATURE STUDENT
REGULATIONS

Date NOVEMBER 18, 1971

MOTION: "That Senate approve that the age of Mature Student Entry be reduced to 23 years of age. All non-matriculated applicants intending to take advantage of this admission procedure are strongly advised to communicate with the University at least 12 months prior to the expected date of admission."

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FROM: DR. B.G. WILSON
ACADEMIC VICE-PRESIDENT
AND CHAIRMAN,
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE
ADMISSIONS BOARD

DATE: 18TH NOVEMBER, 1971

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT OF MATURE STUDENT REGULATIONS

The Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board unanimously approved the following motion at a meeting on Friday, November 12th, 1971.

MOTION: " That the age of Mature Student Entry be reduced to 23 years of age. All non-matriculated applicants intending to take advantage of this admission procedure are strongly advised to communicate with the University at least 12 months prior to the expected date of admission. "

Senate is now asked to consider this motion.

COMMENTS

1. The Mature Student Entry is a provision to admit residents of British Columbia aged 25 or over who do not qualify under other admission categories.
2. If the lowering of the age limit is acceptable to Senate, it could be implemented with the provision that a review be conducted to assess the performance of those admitted under the new provision.
3. It is suggested that implementation be with admissions to Fall Semester, 1972.

RATIONALE

1. During the summer of 1969, the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Standings approved a request from the Director of Admissions to conduct an experimental

Mature Student Entry programme for three semesters commencing Fall, 1969. The purpose of the experiment was to open the Mature Student category wider, and investigate the validity of various tests as a predictive guide. During the 3-semester period, 193 mature students were admitted, compared to an identical number of 193 over the preceeding 11 semesters.

In summary, the results of the experiment showed initially:

- a) That the experimental non-selected mature students performed at least as well as those admitted in previous semesters with various screening methods in effect.
- b) That the experimental mature students performed better than students admitted directly from Grade 12 at the same time.
- c) That because of the overall good performance of the Mature students, the tests used were of little predictive value.

The progress of the experimental group of mature students is still being followed, and a report will be issued when an appreciable number have graduated.

2. Because of the excellent academic performance of the mature students aged 25 and over, it is reasonable to ask whether unqualified 24 or 23-year-olds may perform similarly well.
3. The average mature student entry age for all Canadian universities is close to 23.