

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY****MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Senate

**FROM:** Nick Heath, Secretary  
Senate Undergraduate  
Admissions Board

**RE:** SUAB 200  
Advanced Placement Program

**DATE:** September 18, 1990

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Action undertaken by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board (SUAB) at its meeting of 11 June 1990, gives rise to the following motion:

**MOTION:** "that Senate approve the granting of advanced standing and/or transfer credit for certain examinations offered by the Advanced Placement Program, subject to a minimum grade of 4 in each examination"

**MOTION (as amended):**

"that Senate approve, with the recommendation of the appropriate academic unit using established procedures for articulation, and subject to a minimum grade of 4 in the examination, that advanced standing and/or transfer credit for certain examinations offered through the Advanced Placement Program be granted"

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

**MEMORANDUM**

To: SUAB

From: Nick Heath, Secretary  
Senate Undergraduate  
Admissions Board

Subject: Advanced Placement Program  
SUAB 200

Date: 1990 06 04

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Interim policy, approved by Senate in March 1987, is overdue for review. (See paper S87-4 attached).

Experience with this program has been positive, albeit limited. The interest in A.P.P. is increasing rapidly among B.C. secondary schools and there are indications that schools in other provinces will adopt the Program in increasing numbers. In our strategy to attract top students to S.F.U., recognition of A.P.P. is an important component.

Several major Canadian universities now have placement and transfer credit policies which resemble our interim policy.

SUAB sought advice from those academic departments which had accepted students who had taken A.P.P. exams in their disciplines. There was strong support for changing the existing policy from interim to regular status.

A current list of A.P.P. examinations which are recognized by this University is attached.

**Motion:**

**To approve and to recommend to Senate for consideration and approval the granting of advanced standing and/or transfer credit for certain examinations offered by the Advanced Placement Program, subject to a minimum grade of 4 in each examination.**

nh June 90



**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
Office of the Registrar

**Advanced Placement Program  
Transfer List**

<u>APP Examination</u>	<u>SFU Recognition</u>	<u>Minimum Grade</u>
Biology	Transfer credit for BISC 101, 102 (8 credits)	4
Calculus AB	Advanced standing in MATH 151 *	4
Calculus BC	Advanced standing in MATH 151, 152 (no credit)	4
Chemistry	Advanced standing in CHEM 104, 105 (no credit)	4
Computer Science A	Transfer credit for CMPT 103 (3 credits)	4
Computer Science AB	Transfer credit for CMPT 103, 104 (4 credits)	4
Economics	(under review)	4
English Language & Composition	Transfer credit for ENGL (3 credits)	4
English Literature & Composition	Transfer credit for ENGL (3 credits)	4
American History	Transfer credit for HIST (3 credits)	4
European History	Transfer credit for HIST 106 (3 credits)	4
Physics B	Transfer credit for PHYS 101, 102 (6 credits)	4
Physics C - Mechanics	Transfer credit for PHYS 120 (3 credits) **	4
Physics C - Electricity & Magnetism	Transfer credit for PHYS 121 (3 credits) **	4
Spanish Language	Advanced standing in SPAN 303	4
Spanish Literature	Advanced standing in SPAN 240, 103	4

Course challenge (credit by examination) is also available in most disciplines.

\* Consult Department of Mathematics & Statistics for topics which are missing from Calculus AB, but are required prior to registering in MATH 152/155/158.

\*\* Students should be aware that the following topics are not covered in APP Physics C but are included in PHYS 120 and 121: heat, kinetic theory, thermodynamics, wave motion, interference diffraction, geometric optics and some topics in modern physics and special relativity.

S. 87-4

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

**Memorandum**

**To: Senate**

**From: N. Heath  
Secretary, S.U.A.B.**

**Subject: SUAB 162**

**Date: 87/02/16**

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**Action undertaken by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board at its meeting of 29 January 1987 gives rise to the following motion:**

**MOTION:**

**That Senate approve the granting of transfer credit and/or advanced standing for examinations passed with a grade of 4 or higher in the specified disciplines of the Advanced Placement Program as given in S. 87-4 and that this policy be effective immediately on a 3-year trial basis, subject to a review by S.U.A.B. in 1988.**

**NH:sf**

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
**Memorandum**

To: Senate

From: N. Heath  
Secretary, S.U.A.B.

Subject: APP

Date: 87/02/16

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**Proposed Policy:**

For an interim 3-year period, from the present until December, 1989, Simon Fraser University will grant transfer credit and/or advanced standing for certain specified examinations in the College Entrance Examination Board's Advanced Placement Program as follows;

The candidate must have achieved a minimum grade of 4 (where 5 is the highest grade).

APP Examination

S.F.U. Department Recommendation

European History  
Biology

Advanced standing in History 106  
Transfer credit for Biological Sciences  
101, 102(8)

Physics B  
Calculus BC

Transfer credit for Physics 101, 102 (6)  
Advanced standing in Mathematics 151,  
152, subject to an individual assessment

Physics C  
Chemistry

Advanced standing in Physics 120, 121  
Advanced standing in Chemistry 104, 105

English (Lang. & Composition)  
English (Lit. & Composition)

No advanced standing  
No advanced standing

Further APP examinations may be added to this list following a review by S.U.A.B. of the recommendation of the respective academic department.

**Background:**

The Advanced Placement Program consists of a series of examinations in various disciplines, given annually in May to senior high school students. The examinations are set by committees of instructors at both the high school level and at the college and first-year university level. The examinations are marked centrally, and the administration of the examinations is handled by the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey.

**A.P.P. started in 1955, and since then, the numbers of students writing the examinations, and numbers of post-secondary institutions giving recognition to the examination results, have grown substantially. Approximately 150,000 candidates from about 5,800 high schools will write the examinations this year. About 1,800 colleges and universities in the United States will grant recognition in some form to these examinations.**

**The program encourages college level coursework in the secondary school. Typically, the Advanced Placement examinations are taken only by selected students who are in enriched high school programs, and who would otherwise find the high school curriculum lacking in intellectual challenge. However, APP does not replace the local high school curriculum, but is a supplement to it. Students who are successful in the APP examinations appear to be highly motivated and are likely to pursue their educations at the university level with a high probability of success.**

**Until recently, there appears to have been little interest in the APP in Canadian secondary schools. The only university in Canada which gives recognition to APP examinations is McGill. In the past two years, a number of B.C. secondary schools have begun to implement enrichment programs for selected students, leading to APP examinations in some subjects, in addition to regular secondary school graduation.**

**The program was started in B.C. public schools by Science teachers in the Central Okanagan School District and has since been adopted by a number of other schools in the greater Vancouver area. Interest now appears to be province-wide. At the present time, it appears that about 30 B.C. secondary schools will be presenting candidates for APP examinations in 1987 or 1988.**

### **Grading**

**Each examination is graded on a 5-point scale as follows:**

- 5 - extremely well qualified**
- 4- well qualified**
- 3- qualified**
- 2- possibly qualified**
- 1- no recommendation**

Many of the 1,800 universities and colleges in the United States accepting APP results will give recognition to courses passed with a grade of 3 or higher. However, a number of the more prestigious schools require a 4 or higher for advanced standing or credit, since it is not in the student's best interest to proceed to higher level courses without a thorough mastery of the first-year courses in most disciplines.

The Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board considered that placement and credit should only be considered for grades of 4 or higher.

### **Experience**

We are aware of only a handful of students who have entered the University having taken APP examinations. Of these, only one student has been given transfer credit on an individual basis, for first-year Physics. Consequently, inadequate data are available for making any statistical inferences about the relative performance of students with and without APP. However, a number of research reports based on APP students in U.S. institutions show that these students tend to perform better than average in university programs.

### **Conclusion**

Simon Fraser University needs to remain responsive to initiatives taken in the B.C. school system to improve the quality of education. The decision taken in 1984 to give credit for certain partially completed International Baccalaureate programs, has helped substantially in raising the profile of Simon Fraser as a university which is interested in attracting the Province's best academic students. Similarly, it will be in the interests of the University and of its future students, to take the initiative on this issue, and to recognize the Advanced Placement Program. This is especially important in view of the widespread distribution of results of these examinations. Universities across the continent will be focussing part of their recruitment activity on British Columbia students who have performed well in APP examinations.

NH:sf