

S.87-66

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate

FROM: G. Ivany, Chair  
SCAP  
R. Saunders, Chair  
SCUS

SUBJECT:

DATE: Nov. 19, 1987

- 1) Calculation of CGPA
  - 2) Minimum CGPA Requirements for Graduation  
- Degree Programs
  - 3) Minimum GPA Requirements for Completion of  
Certificate Programs
- (Reference SCUS 87-5, 87-19; SCAP 87-4, 87-8)

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Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies gives rise to the following as set out in S.87-66

MOTION 1: "that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors that the CGPA be "sealed off" at the time a degree or diploma is awarded by Senate: grades for courses completed in semesters leading to the completion of a degree or diploma will not count toward the CGPA in any program subsequently undertaken at SFU"

MOTION 2: "that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the following minimum CGPA requirements for General and Honors Degrees

General Degree: The minimum requirement for graduation on the general degree program is a cumulative grade point average of 2.00. Individual Faculties may have additional requirements.

Referred  
back to  
SCUS by  
Senate  
14/12/87

Honors Degree: The minimum requirement for graduation on the honors program is a cumulative grade point average of 3.00. If the grade point average is 3.50 or higher for all upper division courses taken, the designation "First Class" will apply. Individual Faculties may have additional requirements"

MOTION 3: "that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the following minimum GPA requirements for completion of Certificate Programs:

Successful completion of a Certificate requires a minimum grade point average of 2.0, calculated on all courses applied to the certificate taken at Simon Fraser University. Duplicate courses are counted only once."

SCUS.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Ross Saunders, Associate Vice-President, Academic  
Chairman, SCUS  
W. R. Heath, Registrar

From: Stan Shapson, Associate Dean of Education

Subject: SCUS Subcommittee

Date: May 25, 1987

In response to your terms of reference (March 9, 1987 memorandum), the SCUS subcommittee met twice, reviewed sample transcripts and members discussed draft recommendations with their constituent groups. I am pleased to submit the attached recommendations on behalf of the SCUS subcommittee.

The following comments provide background to our recommendations:

With Regard to the CGPA Recommendation:

The committee felt that students' previous GPA history shouldn't unduly have a positive or negative influence on their new program (eg. EXD, second degree). This principle is especially true of students who are competing for space in limited enrolment courses.

With Regard to the Graduation GPA Recommendations:

- (i) The committee noted that the current "alternative calculations" for graduation GPA are based on cumbersome manual calculations which are subject to different interpretations and which subsequently do not appear on any official record.
- (ii) The committee examined samples of transcripts in which SFU degrees were conferred with the official record showing a final CGPA < 2.00; and first class honors designated with CGPA < 3.00.

May, 1987

## SCUS Subcommittee

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Re: Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)

It is recommended that:

The CGPA be "sealed off" at the time a degree or diploma is awarded by Senate: grades for courses completed in semesters leading to the completion of a degree or diploma will not count toward the CGPA in any program subsequently undertaken at S.F.U.

2. Re: Graduation GPA

It is recommended that:

General Degree: The minimum requirement for graduation on the general degree program is a cumulative grade point average of 2.00. Individual Faculties may have additional requirements. (Note: calendar change is required on p. 25).

Honors Degree: The minimum requirement for graduation on the honors degree program is a cumulative grade point average of 3.00. If the grade point average is 3.50 or higher for all upper division courses taken, the designation "First Class" will apply. Individual Faculties may have additional requirements. (Note: calendar change is required on p. 26).

3. re: DISC Courses

It is recommended that, where appropriate, individual departments or Faculties work with the DISC office and Registrar's Office to reserve spots in distance education courses for students who do not have easy access to the S.F.U. campus.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED  
OCT 30 1987  
Registrar's Office

To: Dr. R. Saunders  
Chairman, SCUS

From: R. Frindt, Chairman  
Faculty of Science  
Undergraduate  
Curriculum Committee

Subject: Revision of Graduation  
Requirements

Date: October 29, 1987

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A short meeting of our Committee was held today to consider a SCUS proposal to revise graduation requirements. In attendance: T. Wells, L. Druehl, B. Sagar, M. Singh, R. Frindt (Chairman) and also by invitation : M. Cairns, E. Kiehlmann.

Some members considered that the proposed changes were significant and required further discussion, possibly at the department level. It was pointed out that the revisions would decrease student flexibility, discourage students from taking courses outside their discipline and permanently penalize students who got off to a "bad start".

It was also stated that the degree should be based on competence in a given subject area which is best reflected in the Grad GPA, not the Cum GPA. It was suggested that the Grad GPA should be shown on the transcript.

Alternately, some members felt that students graduating with a Cum GPA of less than 2.0 have not demonstrated the minimum level of intellectual ability expected of a university graduate. The use of the Cum GPA of 3.0 for honors is more problematic than the 2.0.

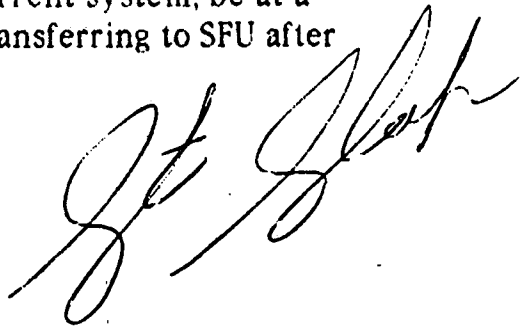
M. Cairns stated that her analysis of records shows that only very few science students would have been affected by the proposed changes to the Cum 2.0 requirement.

So there was agreement to disagree among Committee members. No votes were taken. There seemed to be a general consensus that further discussions of the SCUS proposal were necessary.

R Frindt  
R. Frindt

RF:rh  
c.c. Committee Members  
M. Cairns, Academic Advice  
✓ R. Heath, Registrar  
E. Kiehlmann, Chemistry

- (iii) The committee noted that the "new" regulations on duplicate courses were introduced after the current graduation GPA regulations.
- (iv) The committee felt that the designation "first class honors" should reflect some degree of specialization in one's program; noted that lower division program requirements vary considerably from department to department; felt that the proposed "first class honors" calculation would be fairer for SFU students who might, under the current system, be at a disadvantage compared to students transferring to SFU after 2 years at a community college.

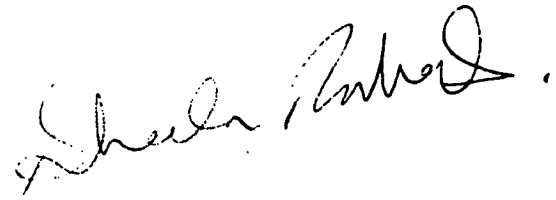
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. J. Smith", written in a cursive style.

SS:kg  
Attach.

cc: Dr. C. Smart, Business Administration  
Dr. R. Frindt, Science  
Dr. J. Weinkam, Applied Science  
Dr. E. Alderson, Arts  
M. Cairns, Academic Advice  
H. Nagel, Records (Consultant)  
S. Roberts, Arts (Consultant)

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
Office of the Dean  
Faculty of Arts

MEMORANDUM



To: All Members  
Faculty of Arts  
Curriculum Committee

From: Sheila Roberts  
Secretary, FACC

Subject: GPA/Certificate Programs      Date: October 6, 1987

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A careful search of the calendar has revealed that no formal criteria were set for graduation grade point requirements. After discussions with Harry Evans and other involved parties, we would like to propose that the following entry be added to the general section of the calendar.

" Successful completion of a Certificate requires a minimum grade point average of 2.0, calculated on all courses applied to the certificate taken at Simon Fraser University. Duplicate courses are counted only once."

As all certificate programs are in the Faculty of Arts with the exception of the largest, Health and Fitness, we propose to ask the department of Kinesiology and the Faculty of Arts to approve this motion prior to forwarding it to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies for consideration.

/km

**SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY**

**memorandum**

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

OCT 17 1987

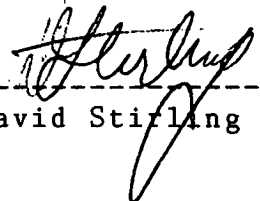
FACULTY OF ARTS

**TO: Sheila Roberts**  
**Secretary, Faculty of Arts**

**FROM: Dr. David Stirling, Chairman**  
**Faculty of Applied Science Undergraduate Program**  
**Committee**

**RE: Grad GPA/Certificate Programs**

In response to your memo 07-10-87 our undergraduate programs committee has approved the minimum grade point average of 2.0 for all courses applied to the certificate of Health and Fitness Studies taken at Simon Fraser University.

  
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David Stirling