

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

**OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC**

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Senate

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

**Subject:** Faculty of Science - Admission requirement changes  
(Reference: SCAP 96 - 65)

**Date:** December 9, 1996

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Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, the Senate Committee on Enrolment Management and Planning, 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 - 6 , the changes to the admission requirements in the Faculty of Science."

## Proposed New Faculty of Science Admission Requirements

### Faculty of Science Admission Requirements

Secondary school students planning to enter the Faculty of Science must satisfy the following requirements:

- a) secondary school graduation
- b) five specified Grade 11 courses, as follows:
  - Chemistry 11
  - English 11
  - Mathematics 11 or Principles of Mathematics 11
  - Physics 11
  - an approved Language 11 or a **beginner's Language 11**
- c) four specified Grade 12 courses, including
  - English 12\*
  - Mathematics 12\*
  - **two provincially-examinable grade 12 subjects\* chosen from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, Geology**
- d) **Admission to the Faculty is on a competitive basis. The average required for admission will be calculated over the four specified grade 12 subjects. The minimum average required in any semester will be determined by the number of qualified applicants. In recent semesters the minimum average for admission has been 75%.**
- e) **The Faculty reserves the right to make early offers of admission to outstanding students.**

\* or equivalent Advance Placement or International Baccalaureate courses as listed above under *General Admission Requirements* for British Columbia Secondary Schools.

Students who are interested in the life sciences (i.e., Biological Sciences, Biochemistry) are strongly advised to include Biology 12 in their secondary school programs. Students planning to enter Biological Sciences, Biochemistry, Chemistry, **Earth Sciences**, or Physics are strongly advised to include Chemistry 12 and Physics 12 in their secondary school programs, and to obtain a grade of B or better in Mathematics 12. If a student lacks any of these courses, substitute courses may be taken, but degree completion could be delayed.

**It is also recommended that students complete at least one computer studies course. If available, a calculus course in their secondary school program would be beneficial.**

FILE

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
MEMORANDUM

To: R. Ydenberg, Chair  
FSUCC

From: C.H.W. Jones, Dean  
Faculty of Science

Subject: New Admission Requirements      Date: November 21, 1996

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The proposed new admission requirements for the Faculty of Science have been debated by both SCUS and SCEMP (Senate Committee on Enrolment Management and Planning). Both bodies had considerable difficulty with the 75% minimum average GPA and the 79% requirement in Math and Statistics. The concern is that if we are locked in to too high an admission GPA that we will only have to change it later to maintain enrolments (cf. U. Victoria). With regard to Math and Statistics, the current requirement is a minimum C+ and students are strongly advised to obtain a "B". A "B" in secondary school corresponds to 73 to 85%.

I have appended the changed document proposed by SCEMP.

Could you please ask the Faculty Committee if they would endorse this Change?

CHW.J.  
C.H.W. Jones

CHWJ:ln:Att.

c: Science Chairs/Directors

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
MEMORANDUM**

To: Roger Blackman, Chair,  
Senate Committee on  
Undergraduate Studies

From: C.H.W. Jones, Dean  
Faculty of Science

Subject: Admission to  
Faculty of Science

Date: September 30, 1996

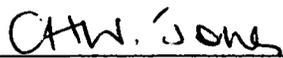
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The Faculty of Science wishes to change its admission requirements as described in the attached documentation.

The key changes are:

1. Instead of calculating the admission GPA on five grade 11 subjects and four grade 12, we will now move to calculating the admission percentage on only the four grade 12 subjects. These will include English 12 and Math 12, which are required, and two grade 12 subjects chosen from the Provincially-examinable subjects: Biosciences, Chemistry, Physics, Geography and Geology.

This will bring admission to the Faculty of Science into closer alignment with the general admission requirements for SFU, which are also based on the students percentage grades received on four Grade 12 subjects, and with those of other B.C. Universities such as UBC.

2. The Language 11 requirement is broadened to include a Beginners Language 11. This again brings us into alignment with the University general admission requirements.
3. The minimum admission requirement will be 75% based on the four grade 12 subjects and admission is clearly stated as being on a competitive basis. This is an accurate reflection of our practice over the last four years or so but states it much more clearly than the present calendar entry.
4. The new entry includes specific reference to Earth Sciences.
5. The inclusion of a course in Computer Studies and a calculus-based mathematics course would strengthen a student's preparation for admission into Science.

  
C.H.W. Jones

CHWJ:rh  
c. A. Watt, Director, Secretariat Services