

MEMORANDUM

May 20, 1977

TO: Mr. George Matthews, Vice Provost  
University Senate Steering Committee

FROM: Professor Dan Fullmer, Chairperson  
Academic Policy Committee

RE: Annual Report for 1976-1977

The following is a list of topics subsequently discussed in this report.

1. Credit for Advanced Placement Examinations, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Examinations, and Competency Examinations
2. Writing Proficiency
3. The "Heberle" Matrix
4. Reorganization
5. Two Baccalaureates
6. Topics Courses and Independent Studies
7. Learning Skills
8. Rubric Inventory
9. Numbering of Area Studies Courses
10. Calendar
11. Double S/N and Numerically Graded Sections
12. Summer Course in Nursing
13. Bachelor of General Studies Publicity
14. Bilingualism Program
15. General Education
16. Suspension of Programs
17. Honors College Grading System
18. P-Grades
19. Arithmetic Proficiency

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1. Credit for Advanced Placement Examinations, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Examinations, and Competency Examinations

As the result of much work and study on the part of a subcommittee chaired by Professor Ozinga, the Senate enacted legislation specifying a consistent university-wide policy for granting credit by examination. A significant feature of the legislation is the incorporation of specific cut-off scores for the CLEP examinations. Organized faculties may take positive action to make certain modifications if they see fit.

2. Writing Proficiency

After a great deal of discussion, with vigorous student participation, the committee recommended Senate legislation, which was passed, prohibiting the registration in advanced courses (300 and 400 level) by students who have not demonstrated proficiency in writing by a specific number of credit hours. The recommendation had the unanimous support of the student representatives on the committee.

3. The "Heberle" Matrix

With the endorsement of those academic units that in the past preferred scheduling modules of four days per week, the committee recommended the adoption of the new scheduling matrix, which eliminated such modules. The Senate passed legislation adopting the matrix as originally proposed by Professor Heberle and without the modifications for longer lunch hours as proposed by the APC.

4. Reorganization

The committee endorsed and made suggestions about the reorganization of the Senate committees. The outcome of the Senate legislation of establishing the new Academic Policy and Planning Committee and its subordinate committee, the University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction, should provide a structure that allows for a manageable division of labor for its chairpersons and members.

5. Two Baccalaureates

The committee interpreted the intent of the legislation on the earning of two baccalaureates from the University as disallowing two degrees with the same designation. Growing out of the discussions came a recommendation to the Provost that post-bachelors students merely returning for extra course work not be charged higher fees.

6. Topics Courses and Independent Studies

As a result of concerns expressed by the University Congress, the committee recommended to the Registrar that the subtitles of topics courses be stated on student transcripts, a procedure which has been adopted. The APC also urged each Committee on Instruction to have all academic units provide written contracts for independent studies with students.

#### 7. Learning Skills

The student representatives on the APC expressed some concern about the effectiveness of the writing courses in Learning Skills and about the proficiency testing procedures. The matter has been taken up by the Curriculum Committee of the FCGS and it expects to have more information on the subject during next fall. Another concern was raised about the availability of LS course sections, and it was noted that sections offered at unpopular hours had low enrollments and that the program operates at a respectably low student/faculty ratio.

#### 8. Rubric Inventory

The APC routinely updated the inventory of course rubrics and noted that the following programs are inactive and the rubrics in storage: SCI (Science), MLT (Modern Languages/Literatures in Translation), SWA (Swahili), PSS (Public and Societal Systems), ADA (Academy of Dramatic Arts), UC (University Courses), JPN (Japanese), HEB (Hebrew), POR (Portuguese), and AC (Allport College).

#### 9. Numbering of Area Studies Courses

As a result of the urging of the APC, Area Studies courses are now numbered at the 200 level in accordance with formula budget interpretations.

#### 10. Calendar

Two and even three years ago several concerns were raised in the APC about the academic calendar. The University has now adopted a five year calendar that resolves some earlier difficulties. Features of the new calendar include a full week's recess in the winter semesters, no Wednesday evening classes before Thanksgiving (when students are dismissed from the dorms), and 70 instruction days each term with every class scheduled for an equal amount of time.

#### 11. Double S/N and Numerically Graded Sections

At the urging of the APC, both New-Charter College and the Department of Music have eliminated double sections for courses meeting at the same time and place. The action is consonant with Senate legislation on S/N grades and with the interpretation that S/N graded courses are defensible only in terms of the nature of the course.

#### 12. Summer Course in Nursing

The APC approved the offering of NRS 411, Community Organization for Health, for 12 credits during the summer, 1977. It requests that this exception to general policy be reviewed during the winter, 1978, after the course has been offered as well during a regular semester.

13. Bachelor of General Studies Publicity

At the urging of the APC the publicity statements concerning the BGS were changed to reflect more the spirit of the BGS legislation so as not to imply that there is a specific BGS curriculum or that a student must complete a "broad" program.

14. Bilingualism Program

The APC was pleased to note the implementation of a program for training teachers in bilingual education. The program is a joint venture offered by the School of Education in cooperation with the College of Arts and Sciences. It is hoped other such cross-school ventures will be developed in the future.

15. General Education

The APC noted that the College of Arts and Sciences revised its general education requirements. Courses will be specified as suitable to the needs and aims of general education. It is expected that now the other schools will review their general education programs and perhaps take advantage of revisions in the College.

16. Suspension of Programs

The APC was pleased to note that appropriate procedures involving assembly action were used by the College of Arts and Sciences for suspending its programs in Judaic Studies and Health-Medical Behavior Sciences.

17. Honors College Grading System

The Honors College requested that a special grading system be devised for its courses. The APC raised some questions about the proposal and noted that perhaps more study and discussion were needed on the matter and that the topic might be the first order of business for next year's UCUI.

18. P-Grades

At the request of the Registrar the APC has accumulated a list, which remains incomplete, of those courses in which P grades may be given. The information is still not available from the School of Education and New-Charter College.

19 Arithmetic Proficiency

The APC had some further discussions about the possibility and problems of establishing an arithmetic proficiency requirement. It was evident from the results of random testing last summer that there are students here who could benefit by some tutoring in the subject. Perhaps the Department of Learning Skills, per an APC report two years ago, should inaugurate a small tutorial program in the subject to test and evaluate student needs and motivations.