

Minutes

ACADEMIC STANDARDS & EVENTS COMMITTEE
April 10, 1985

Present: Barbara Brothers, Chair; Conser, Gross, Rost, Munro, Scriven,
Tribble, West

Guest: Susan Khawaja, Coord. Special Student Services
International Student Services

1. The Minutes of April 3 were approved as distributed.
2. Regarding proposed changes in TOEFL scores:
 - a. Susan Khawaja stated that there is no precedent for the proposed changes. The TOEFL scores have never been reviewed by an academic senate at YSU, but were passed by Deans' Council. The scores affect admissions of most foreign and exchange students (approx. 100 per year) but do not affect other students whose native language is not English. The TOEFL test is designed to measure skills for using English as a second language. The test contains no measure of speaking skills.
 - b. Khawaja believes that a raising (or dropping) of TOEFL scores now is premature. She is satisfied with the quality of the students' performance since TOEFL scores were raised 3 years ago. If the scores are raised she anticipates an enrollment drop of at least 1/3 of foreign students per year. The scores would therefore be used as a "screening out" device rather than as a placement device. Khawaja also mentioned use of TOEFL scores as "placement after arrival" (as many universities use).
 - c. A motion was made by Munro to keep the present TOEFL scores and to accept the rewording of p. 33 in the Bulletin by Susan Khawaja and Walter Rusnak. Under "Foreign Transfer Student," #3 would read:

"A TOEFL score of at least 525 (or its MTELP equivalent) if the applicant has English composition credit from a prior institution, or at least 500 (or its MTELP equivalent) if no English composition credit was earned from a prior institution."

The motion was seconded by Tribble and passed unanimously. Khawaja was also asked to submit to the Committee a copy of the project she is currently working on regarding international education.
3. Scriven moved to accept the change in wording approved by the Curriculum Committee for Mathematics 508, 509, 510 and 511. (see attached sheets). The motion was seconded by West and passed 2 to 1.

Enclosures

BB/jeh

cc: Dr. Gillis
Larry Esterly
✓ Maag Library