

Academic Policies Committee

Minutes

19 February 2019

Minutes approved:

In Attendance: Jessica Sullivan (COE), Michael Hopper (RCOB), Marie Burgos for Tara Wood (SGA), Jill Drake (VPAA), Emily McKendry-Smith (COSS), Soo Moon for Patrick Hadley (COSS), Jean Cook (Library), Nancy Pencoe (COSM), Scott Gordon via proxy (COSM)

The meeting began at 1:06 PM.

- I. Minutes
 - a. The minutes from the September 27, 2018 meeting were approved without corrections.

- II. International Freshman Admissions Policy
 - a. Paul Sargent, Assistant director of the Office of International Student Admissions and Programs, requested the APC approve language that was included inadvertently in the 2017-18 Undergraduate Catalog, allowing UWG to evaluate foreign transcripts internally.
 - b. At present, UWG requires all foreign transcripts to be evaluated by recommended companies for course equivalents, credits, etc., which increases the cost of application to UWG by \$100-\$200/student.
 - c. The USG does not require a 3rd party evaluation of foreign transcripts, and does permit USG schools to perform an internal evaluation.
 - d. Both Paul Sargent and Danny Rivera have been certified to evaluate foreign transcripts.
 - e. Michael Hopper motioned to approve language in the 2017-18 Undergraduate Catalog with the addition of the Association of International Credential Evaluators (AICE) as a second USG-approved external evaluation service. This was seconded by Jessica Sullivan and unanimously moved to adopt by the committee.

- III. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Appendix:

Proposed Revised Policy

International Beginning Freshman

1. All applicants, regardless of immigration status, whose native language is not English, must meet English language proficiency requirements. This requirement can be fulfilled by submitting results from one of the approved English Language Proficiency options listed below.
2. Students who identify as native English speakers are exempt from having to provide an English Language Proficiency document. Native speaking students will need to submit official scores from either the SAT or ACT academic examination. Minimum SAT/ACT score requirements for freshman or transfer freshman admission are: SAT Critical Reading-430 and SAT Math-410; ACT English-17, and ACT Math-17. It is the policy of the Office of Admissions to take a student's best Critical Reading/English and best math score should the student take the SAT or ACT more than once; however, SAT scores and ACT scores cannot be "mixed" in determining admission eligibility.
3. ~~All applicants, regardless of immigration status, are required to obtain a foreign academic credential evaluation of education (secondary and/or university) that is not awarded by a recognized institution holding United States accreditation. The evaluation service utilized must belong to the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), such as the World Education Service (WES), or Josef Silny and Associates.~~
The University System of Georgia requires completion of a College Preparatory Curriculum from an accredited institution for Freshman admission. A student applying while in high school should have a transcript of work through the junior year sent to the Admissions Office at the time of application. Students completing secondary school must provide official copies of their transcripts to the University of West Georgia for evaluation. If this official copy is not in the English language, it must be accompanied by a certified translation to English. The University of West Georgia reserves the right to request for a formal Academic Credential Evaluation of transcripts/documents submitted to the University as part of a student's application. If requested, the student must provide an evaluation of secondary school credentials from a service belonging to the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), or the Association of International Credential Evaluators (AICE).
4. International applicants, which require sponsorship for an F-1 or J-1 visa, must submit a copy of their passport and any previously issued United States visas as part of the application process.
5. International applicants, which require sponsorship for an F-1 or J-1 visa, must submit financial documentation indicating evidence of sufficient funds available for study at UWG. These documents are not required to receive a decision on an application, but are required prior to the release of any documents needed for the visa application process.