

University Committee on Admissions

Minutes

Dec.5, 2023

3:30pm

Via Webex

Attendees:

Jonathan Anderson – Faculty of Engineering

Marion Morgenstern – Academic Advising

Renee Shute – Faculty of HSS

Jason Geary – Blundon Centre

Mackenzie Broders – MUSU

Shannon Sullivan – Faculty of Science

Ken Fowler – Counselling Centre

Michelle Honeygold – Admissions Office

Guest:

Keir McIsaac – Admissions Office

1. Minutes from Oct.10, 2023 meeting were approved.

2. Request for endorsement of Calendar change proposal re: English language proficiency requirements for undergraduate admission.

The Committee endorsed the proposed Calendar changes to the English language proficiency requirements for undergraduate admissions.

3. Proposal for BFA and B.MUS general admissions pilot

The Committee reviewed the proposal and provided the following commentary:

- Expression of concern regarding approval at the Registrar’s Office level and resource availability within the Admissions Unit to implement this initiative.
- Since English has been shown to be the greatest predictor of academic success, it was suggested that there be a minimum grade requirement on grade 12 English to balance the flexibility in acceptable subject area course requirements.
- Concern raised about evaluation of the pilot. How will success and continuation of the pilot be determined? Broadening the admission pool won’t necessarily enhance academic performance in the program.
- Encouragement to move forward with the pilot. Implementation details can be worked out. Relaxing certain regulations means others will have to be enhanced.
- Will there be a flood of applicants under this pilot and will we need to cap the number of applicants we are accepting through this pilot? May not be necessary because these programs have resource limitations and have admission caps already.
- Don’t make a Calendar change. Follow students through the program to see how many graduated and then determine if it is worth continuing or expanding.
- The pilot is a good idea if done carefully. It makes sense to have different admission criteria for different programs. It is a low risk initiative since students wouldn’t be eligible to change to another program.

- Viewed by some as a slippery slope. Other faculties/schools may also want program-specific admission requirements. Are we setting ourselves up for chaos? However, other members don't want this fear to hold up this initiative.

4. Request for endorsement of the Pharmacy Education Board of Canada's national pharmacy licensing exam to meet English proficiency requirements.

The Committee approved the School of Pharmacy's proposal to accept the Pharmacy Education Board of Canada's national pharmacy licensing exam to meet English proficiency requirements.

5. Case 1

Status: NL high school anticipated graduation, June 2024

Reason for Appeal: transferred from ON, missing grade 11 math

Intended Program: B.Sc.

Semester applied: Fall 2024

Decision: approve early offer