

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Governance Advisory Council Report 2014-2015

December 19, 2014

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GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

December 16, 2014

Attendees: Dr. Jeanne Daffron, Jackie Burns, Dr. Ben Caldwell, Daniel Hager, Matt McDonald, Dr. Kathleen O'Connor, Natasha Oakes, Dr. Jon Rhoad, Dr. Bob Willenbrink

Others: Susan Bracciano, Marilyn Baker, Dr. Judy Grimes, Tyson Schank, Michael Ritter

GAC #14-10 – Undergraduate Curriculum Proposals (resubmitted from November)

Source of Proposal: Faculty Senate

Purpose of Proposal: Policy Revision / New Policy or Procedure

Current Policy or Procedure:

Proposed Policy or Procedure:

From November

Primary Proposals

Prop #	Description	DHE Req?	Gen. Studies?	Action
ART-187	Create Ceramics minor	No	No	Approved
ART-191	Create Digital Animation minor	No	No	Approved
ART-192	Create Drawing minor	No	No	Approved
ART-193	Create Graphic Design minor	No	No	Approved
ART-196	Create Photography minor	No	No	Approved
ART-198	Create Sculpture minor	No	No	Approved
ART-231	Update BFA Studio Art major requirements: replace Directed Reading and Independent Research courses with guided electives	No	No	Approved
ART-250	Update BFA Graphic Design major requirements: replace Directed Reading with a guided elective and adds Motion Graphics as an optional course	No	No	Approved
ART-291	Add a new course: ART 180 – Fibers	No	No	Approved
BUS-223	Add a new course: MGT 394 – International Strategy Competition	No	No	Approved

Prop #	Description	DHE Req?	Gen. Studies?	Action
CST-235	Update BS Communication major requirements: removes the concentrations and makes changes to make it a generalist degree (see form)	Yes	No	Approved
CST-236	Remove BSE in Speech and Theatre (this degree is now going to be housed in TCD)	No	No	Approved
CST-266	Adds new courses: COM 195 – Applied Debate and Forensics, COM 227 – Interviewing Principles and Practices, COM 382 – Public Relations Writing and Design, COM 385 – Communicating Intimacy, COM 411 – Crisis PR & Risk Communication, COM 444 – Public Relations Practices, COM 477 – Client Management Practices, COM 488 – International Public Relations, and JOU 488 – International Journalism	No	No	Approved
CST-277	Creates BS Public Relations major	Yes	No	Approved
CST-288	Change title of Convergent Media program to Convergent Journalism and update requirements (see form)	Yes	No	Approved
CSMP-189	Remove the Computer Information Systems minor	No	No	Approved
CSMP-190	Update Computer Science requirements: rearrange some courses between core and emphasis, remove MAT 137, and add MAT 132 as a statistics elective	No	No	Approved
CSMP-230	Change ACT minor requirements: remove ACT 202 and add CSC 201	No	No	Approved
CSMP-322	Add new course MAT 099 as a corequisite for MAT 110 for students with an ACT math score of 18-21	No	Yes*	Approved
CJLS-281	Provide a choice between LAW 365 Practicum I and LAW 465 Internship Field Experience	No	No	Approved
EPSS-221	Add new course: PSC 317 – Gender and Politics	No	No	Approved
EPSS-278	Add PSC 317 to the Gender and Power Studies minor	No	No	Approved
EPSS-324	Replace ECO 463 with ECO 362 as an elective choice under the social science section of the Economics degree	No	No	Approved
EFLJ-240	Remove the emphasis areas in Journalism and Public Relations from the BA English degree	Yes	No	Approved
EFLJ-242	Change ENG 465 from 2 credit hours to 3 credit hours	No	No	Approved
EFLJ-245	Remove ENG 356 from all programs	No	No	Approved
EFLJ-247	Delete ENG 356	No	No	Approved
EFLJ-248	Add Technical Communication concentration to the BA in Modern Languages	Yes	No	Approved
HPER-275	Increases the credit hours on PED 305, PED 306, and PED 385 from 2 to 3	No	No	Approved
HPER-276	Drops four classes from the core requirements for PE-General and PE-Education programs	No	No	Approved
HPER-294	Drops the PE-Health and Exercise Science pre-major form	No	No	Approved

Prop #	Description	DHE Req?	Gen. Studies?	Action
HPER-295	Change the RSM-Sport Management and RSM-Recreation Administration programs to reflect PED 305/306 credit changes	No	No	Approved
HPER-296	Change minors (Wellness, Recreation Management, & Athletic Coaching) and certification in Health Education to reflect changes to majors	No	No	Approved
HPER-297	Require PED 352 for the PE-General and PE-Education programs and change its credit hours from 2 to 3	No	No	Approved
HPER-298	Change the titles of PED 240, PED 241, and PED 246, and change PED 246 from 2 credit hours to 3	No	No	Approved
HPER-299	Change PED 191, PED 380, and PED 383 from 2 credit hours to 3	No	No	Approved
HPER-300	Drops ALH 352 from the Health and Exercise Science program and updates the requirements to reflect the credit-hour changes in other proposals	No	No	Approved
HPG-256	Adds BIO 305 as an option in the Geography minor	No	No	Approved
HPG-262	Removes PHL 210 from both the BA and BS in Philosophy and replaces it with 3 hours of electives	No	No	Approved
HPG-263	Removes PHL 210 and adds PHL 330 as an option in the Philosophy minor	No	No	Approved
HPG-264	Several changes in course requirements and options in the Religion minor (see form)	No	No	Approved
HPG-270	Adds the new course PSC 317 as an elective to the Peace & Conflict Studies minor	No	No	Approved
HPG-273	Adds either GEO 210 or GEO 320 as a required course for all History majors	No	No	Approved
HPG-274	Requires a grade of C or better on coursework for the US History and European History minors	No	No	Approved
NUR-323	Create a new degree: BS in Population Health Management	Yes	No	Approved
PSY-218	Delete PSY 421 and PSY 280	No	No	Approved
PSY-220	Renames the core areas and moves PSY 325 from the Social/Personality Core to the new Adaptive Behavior Core	No	No	Approved
PSY-229	Rename the BS Psychology – Personnel concentration to BS Psychology – Organizational Leadership	Yes	No	Approved
PSY-279	Create new Multidisciplinary Leadership minor	No	No	Approved
FINE-309	Adds new courses: THR 386 – History of Musical Theatre and THR 338 – Theatre for Children and Youth	No	No	Approved
FINE-310	Revises the requirements of the Theatre and Cinema concentrations and adds a Musical Theatre concentration	Yes	No	Approved
FINE-311	Revises the Musical Theatre minor to create a single set of required courses for both Music and Theatre majors	No	No	Approved

Secondary Proposals

Prop #	Description	DHE Required?	Gen. Studies?
BIO-333	Change BIO 411 offering from Spring to Fall	No	No
CST-287	Changes course titles and descriptions in the Convergent Media program	No	No
CSMP-315	Change the prerequisites for MAT 165, MAT 166, MAT 177, and MAT 331	No	Yes*
CSMP-318	Change the prerequisites for MAT 110, MAT 112, and MAT 116	No	Yes*
EDU-252	Makes changes to the courses that may be taken during the Professional Semester	No	No
EFLJ-237	Change EPR 326 – Desktop Publishing to ETC 326 – Document Design	No	No
EFLJ-246	Change course description and title of ENG 355	No	No
EFLJ-249	Add RDG 095, ACT score of 19+, or passing Accuplacer test as prerequisite for ENG 104	No	Yes*
HPG-258	Change course description and prerequisite for GEO 340	No	No
HPG-286	Change the titles of REL 250, REL 251, and REL 252	No	No
HPG-289	Change offering semester for PHL 325 to DD	No	No
HPG-290	Change the title, description, and prerequisites for PHL 219	No	No
HPG-292	Change prerequisites for upper-division Philosophy courses	No	No
HPG-293	Update course descriptions for REL 360, REL 365, PHL 365, LAT 365, and PSC 365 to reflect repeat credit	No	No
MUS-321	Removes LAS Focus Areas from music courses	No	No
NUR-331	Change the title of the program from Health Informatics and Information Management to Health Information Management	Yes	No
PSY-219	Change semester offerings of PSY 325, PSY 340, PSY 400, PSY 410, and PSY 420	No	No
PSY-224	Align the prerequisites so all courses in the same core have the same prerequisites	No	No

Administrative Proposals

Prop #	Description
ART-186	Remove pre-major from selected ART degrees (Studio Art, Digital Animation, Graphic Design)
ART-217	Catalog corrections for BSE Art Education
BIO-339	Change Biotechnology major/minor form to reflect 2011-2012 curriculum change
EPSS-325	Change semester offering for SOC 360 from Spring of odd years to every Spring
EDU-254	Changes the description of EDU 202 to reference the Missouri Educator Profile
EDU-255	Change prerequisites for EDU 470
EDU-259	Change description of EDU 304
EDU-260	Change description of EDU 310
EDU-261	Change prerequisites to multiple Early Childhood Education courses
ET-335	Change the description of MET 422 and the description and prerequisites of EET 402

*Items marked as Yes in the General Studies column must go through the General Studies Committee and will be resubmitted as proposals through GAC.

From December

Secondary Proposals

Prop #	Description	DHE Required?	Gen. Studies?
ART-280	Update course name and description for ART 359, ART 360, and ART 460	No	No
CJLS-343	Add LAT 365 as a restricted elective for all concentrations within the BS in Criminal Justice degree	No	No
CJLS-345	Change the course title of LAW 110	No	No
CSMP-342	Change the course number for MAT 110 with corequisite of MAT 099 to MAT110e	No	Yes*

Administrative Proposals

Prop #	Description
ART-327	Correct catalog text for ART 133
ART-328	Drop LAS Focus Areas from Art Department courses
ART-349	Add an optional course to the Digital Animation degree
CSMP-180	Change semesters for CSC 318 and CSC 328; change prereqs for CSC 406, CSC 289, and CSC 346; and reword CSC 346.
CSMP-316	Delete MAT 127
CJLS-334	Catalog corrections
EPSS-313	Catalog corrections for Political Science majors
EPSS-314	Catalog corrections for Sociology majors
EDU-251	Changes the course numbers on multiple Early Childhood Education courses.
EDU-332	Change the title of EDU 312
EDU-348	Change several course prerequisites due to course renumbering
EFLJ-347	Change the title of ETC 224
FINE-329	Remove LAS Focus Areas from course descriptions
HPG-284	Change semester offerings for HIS 220, HIS 305, and HIS 320
NUR-346	Change catalog text to waive HIF 420 prereqs for Population Health Management majors
PSY-228	Reword math requirement on premajor forms
PSY-340	Clarify upper-level elective language in catalog
PSY-341	Change catalog text to waive PSY 300 prereqs for Population Health Management majors

*Items marked as Yes in the General Studies column must go through the General Studies Committee and will be resubmitted as proposals through GAC.

GAC Summary: The additional items included in the summary submitted for December had not been reviewed by the GAC members, so it was distributed electronically for comments or discussion. It was determined the new summary should go forward.

Presidential Action: This proposal was signed by the President on January 7, 2015.

GAC #14-11 – Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards

Source of Proposal: Student Affairs

Purpose of Proposal: Policy Revision

Current Policy or Procedure: MWSU Policy Guide, Academic Policies, Instructional Policies, Add to current policy.

Proposed Policy or Procedure:

When purchasing technology to be used in the classroom, faculty and staff need to make every effort to purchase only those products that meet the compliance standards set forth in Section 508 of The Rehabilitation Act. Whenever existing classroom technology limits opportunities for participation by students with disabilities, a workaround must be found. If a reasonable solution cannot be found, the use of that technology must be discontinued. A copy of the *Section 508 Accessibility Standards* is available on the Accessibility Resource Center website under the Faculty Resource Center tab (<https://www-new.missouriwestern.edu/arc/electronic-and-information-technology-accessibility-standards/>).

The rationale for the creation of this policy is that we currently have classroom technology that limits opportunities for participation by students with disabilities. Examples are the Clicker technology that is utilized by many instructors and the ALEKS program utilized by our developmental mathematics program. .

There will be an expected but unknown financial impact on the University as ADA compliant technology is typically more expensive than non-compliant technology.

GAC Summary: After discussion, it was determined the first two sentences should be rewritten to read as follows: **“Technology purchases made for the classroom should meet the standards set for in Section 508 of The Rehabilitation Act. Whenever existing classroom technology limits opportunities for participation by students with disabilities, a reasonable accommodation should be pursued.”**

In addition, the third sentence should be removed. The last sentence should have a period added after “Resource Center tab” and the web site in parenthesis should be removed.

With these revisions, this proposal will be forwarded to the President for his approval.

Presidential Action: This proposal was signed by the President on January 7, 2015.

GAC #14-12 – Transfer Credit Policy Revision

Source of Proposal: Director of Admissions and Registrar

Purpose of Proposal: Policy Revision

Current Policy or Procedure: MWSU 2014-2015 University Catalog

Pages 13 and 14 of the 2014-2015 University Catalog:

College Transfer

To be admitted in this category, applicants must provide:

1. Completed application for admission form.
2. Official transcript from each undergraduate college and university attended. Student transcripts received from other colleges and universities become the property of MWSU, and are not reissued to the student or to another institution.
3. If you have earned less than 24 credit hours you will be required to submit official high school transcript and ACT scores.

A transfer student who has completed an Associate of Arts degree (AA), an Associate of Arts in Teaching degree (AAT) degree, the 42-hour general education block (must be noted on the transcript or other official document), or bachelors degree from an accredited Missouri institution is considered to have satisfactorily completed MWSU's general studies requirements (some exceptions apply which will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis). Completion of general studies requirements does not waive departmental major pre-requisites. A transfer student who has completed any other degree or one outside the state of Missouri will have their courses evaluated on a course-by-course basis.

MWSU accepts unlimited lower division transfer hours (100-200 level) from accredited two-year colleges. Graduation requirements which may impact a transfer student include:

- Earn a minimum of 124 credit hours (including 60 hours from a senior college in the following departments: Art; Biology; Chemistry; Communication and Journalism; Theatre, Cinema and Dance; Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics; Economics, Political Science and Sociology; English and Modern Languages; History and Geography; Philosophy and Religion; Music; and Psychology).
- Earn a minimum of 30 credits in upper-division coursework (300-400 level)
- Earn 30 of the last 45 credits at MWSU in institutional coursework

Refer to www.missouriwestern.edu/admissions/transfer for transfer credit equivalencies and guidelines.

MWSU adheres to the guidelines of the Missouri Articulation Agreement. Transfer course work is evaluated and awarded on the same basis as credit awarded at MWSU.

Consequently, criteria used to evaluate currently enrolled MWSU students is equally applicable to transfer students. Applicants who are considering transferring to MWSU may

refer to the Table of Academic Standards contained in this catalog to determine their academic status for transfer admission purposes.

Appeal Procedure for Transfer Credits

A student has the right to appeal a denial of transfer credit at MWSU.

The student wishing to appeal must:

1. File a written appeal with the Admissions and Graduation Committee (see Registrar's Office, Eder 102).
2. Explain in writing the reason for the appeal
3. If appealing coursework from an institution not regionally accredited, must also submit course descriptions, a course syllabus and the credentials of the instructor for each class that is being appealed.

If after all appeal steps internal to MWSU have been exhausted, transfer students can appeal to the state level committee on transfer and articulation.

Proposed Policy or Procedure:

College Transfer

To be admitted in this category, applicants must provide:

1. Completed application for admission form.
2. Official transcript from each undergraduate college and university attended. Student transcripts received from other colleges and universities become the property of MWSU, and are not reissued to the student or to another institution.
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Students who have completed an Associate of Arts degree (AA), a bachelors degree, or the Missouri 42-hour general education block (must be noted on the transcript or other official document) from a regionally-accredited institution, is considered to have satisfactorily completed MWSU's general studies requirements (some exceptions apply which will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis). Completion of general studies requirements does not waive departmental major pre-requisites. A transfer student who has completed any other degree will have their courses evaluated on a course-by-course basis.

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2. Explain in writing the reason for the appeal
3. If appealing coursework from an institution not regionally accredited, must also submit course descriptions, a course syllabus and the credentials of the instructor for each class that is being appealed.

If after all appeal steps internal to MWSU have been exhausted, transfer students can appeal to the state level committee on transfer and articulation.

Rationale:

Effective Fall 2015. Revisions were necessary to clean up unclear/inaccurate language surrounding the acceptance of the Missouri 42-hour general education block versus all other Associate of Arts and Bachelors degrees. This wording better represents current practice for students who transfer with Bachelors degrees and brings Missouri Western into better alignment with current practices at other regional colleges for students transferring with Associate of Arts degrees.

GAC Summary: This proposal will be forwarded to the President for his approval.

Presidential Action: This proposal was signed by the President on January 7, 2015.

GAC #14-13 – Fall 2014 Graduate Curriculum

Source of Proposal: Graduate Council

Purpose of Proposal: Policy Revision

Current Policy or Procedure:

The Following Table includes a summary of **graduate program revisions proposals** approved by the Graduate Council during the Fall 2014 curriculum review.

Graduate Curriculum Program Revisions	Summary and Justification
MAS Chemistry	Add as a requirement for graduation that students submit a portfolio containing specific artifacts of their work.
Master of Information Management	Allow students to take related electives (up to 6 credit hours) from fields such as computer science, engineering, management, and marketing to enhance the program while also providing more flexibility to the individual student's learning objectives.
MAS Human Factors and Usability Testing	Delete PSY 694 and allow PSY 693 to be taken twice. Will help efficiency of course offerings for both students and program administration
MAS Assessment	Renaming of courses to better reflect course content and curriculum

The Following Table includes a summary of **graduate course revisions and new course proposals** approved by the Graduate Council during the Fall 2014 curriculum review.

Summary Graduate Curriculum Changes Approved by Graduate Council Fall 2014	Proposal Type	Notes
MIM 613	Pre-requisite change	
MIM 653	Pre-requisite change	
MIM 676	Pre-requisite change	
EDU 510	Course Title Change	Old Title: Policy Decisions and the Data that Drive Them New Title: Introduction to Research in Education
EDU 530	Course Title Change	Old Title: Introduction to Research in Education New Title: Educational Research Formation

EDU 611	Course Title Change	Old Title: Literature Review and Case Study Analysis
		New Title: Research Development and Literature Analysis
EDU 615	Pre-requisite and course description changes	
EDU 630	Course Title Change	Old Title: Improving Outcomes: Documenting the Process and Results
		New Title: Capstone
PSY 693	Course Title change; allow repeat of course	Old Title: Seminar in Human-Centered Design I and Seminar in Human-Centered Design II
		New Title: Seminar in Human-Centered Design
PSY 694	Delete Course	Course unnecessary with changes to PSY 693
LAW 625	New Course	Crime Reconstruction and Forensic Case Management
		Offered as Special Topics course twice as LAW 696
LAW 680	Course revision	Allow course to be repeated, catalog description revision; change from 3-6 credit to 1-6 credits.

GAC Summary: This proposal will be forwarded to the President for his approval.

Presidential Action: This proposal was signed by the President on January 7, 2015.

GAC #14-14 – Accelerated Graduate Programs

Source of Proposal: Graduate Council

Purpose of Proposal: Policy Revision

Current Policy or Procedure:

Proposed Policy or Procedure: The proposed policy will be a **new category** to be added to the Graduate School Policy Portal (AKA Graduate Wiki).

Accelerated Graduate Programs

Accelerated graduate programs are designed to allow MWSU undergraduates to apply for early admission to the Graduate School and acceptance into a graduate program. Accelerated

programs allow accepted students to begin taking graduate coursework before receiving their undergraduate degree. An accelerated graduate program should allow a student to complete the program within one year of earning their bachelor's degree instead of a normal two-year sequence for a master's degree.

An accelerated graduate program will allow an accepted undergraduate student to begin taking course work toward a graduate degree during the senior year (after earning 90 undergraduate credits). Students must meet all of the requirements (except for completion of their undergraduate degree) for a degree seeking graduate student and any program specific requirements. An individual graduate program may have specific requirements for students to be accepted into an accelerated graduate program

Undergraduate students accepted into an accelerated graduate program are exempt from taking a maximum of 6 graduate credit hours and the restriction of only enrolling in 500 level courses.

Students accepted into an accelerated graduate program may take up to 12 credits of graduate course work (500 or 600 level) during the time in which they are recognized as a senior student. Undergraduates must complete all the requirements for their bachelor's degree before continuing on with additional graduate course work. Failure to complete the bachelor's degree during this period will result in a registration hold being placed on the student's ability to enroll in additional graduate courses.

Graduate course work will be billed at the regular graduate tuition rate. It is the student's responsibility to check with the Financial Aid Office about how enrollment in graduate course work may impact financial aid or eligibility.

Justification: Current undergraduates may take graduate courses only as non-degree seeking students. This change would allow undergraduates to apply for acceptance into a specific graduate program as a degree seeking student and begin taking graduate courses without the restrictions of non-degree seeking students - non-graduate degree seeking undergraduate may not take more than 6 credits of graduate, and may only take 500 level courses. Acceptance as degree seeking students would not have these restrictions. Undergraduate students accepted into graduate program could be able to complete a graduate degree program within one year of finishing their undergraduate program.

Several MWSU graduate programs are interested in recruiting current undergraduates into their programs. Allowing MWSU undergraduates to begin taking graduate courses during their senior year would likely assist recruitment and graduate program growth. This is a common practice at many institutions.

Proposed changes would be effective immediately at the beginning of the spring 2015 semester.

GAC Summary: The third paragraph should be changed to read as follows: "Undergraduate students accepted into an accelerated graduate program are exempt from taking a maximum of 6 graduate credit hours and the restriction of only enrolling in 500 level courses."

In the last paragraph, the last sentence should read "It is the student's responsibility to check with the Financial Aid Office about how enrollment in graduate course work may impact financial aid eligibility."

With these revisions, this proposal will be submitted to the President for his approval.

Presidential Action: This proposal was signed by the President on January 7, 2015.

GAC #14-15 – Degree Seeking Graduate Student Policy for Undergraduate Acceptance to Accelerated Graduate Programs

Source of Proposal: Graduate Council

Purpose of Proposal: Policy Revision

Current Policy or Procedure: MWSU Policy Guide, Academic Policies, Graduate Program Policies and Procedures

Article VIII: Graduate Students

Section 1. Admission Requirements

Application materials must be submitted to the Office of Admissions by the program deadline. After screening for minimum criteria, the application and all supporting materials will be forwarded to and evaluated by the graduate admissions committee of the appropriate program to which the student is applying. The recommendation of the program committee and/or the program director is sent to the Office of Graduate Studies for final approval by the Graduate Dean. The Office of Graduate Studies will then notify the student of his/her admission status. All foreign nation students must provide evidence of visa status and F-visa students must have an I-20 form on file with the Admissions Office.

Section 2. Degree Seeking Applicants

Degree seeking students are defined as those who are pursuing a graduate certificate or Master's degree. To be admitted to the Graduate School as a degree seeking student, an applicant must submit an Application for Graduate Admission according to the following deadlines:

- June 15th for Fall Admission
- October 1st for Spring Admission
- March 15th for Summer Admission

Admission to graduate programs at MWSU is based upon the following minimum criteria:

1. A Bachelor's degree or Master's degree from an accredited college or university. Transcript(s) must be submitted with application.
2. Entrance to Graduate School requires a minimum 2.75 undergraduate grade point average (GPA) or previously earned Masters degree.
3. A minimum graduate-level entrance exam score, as designated by the department or graduate

program.

4. Individual programs may have further requirements for admissions such as resume, letters of recommendation, and interview. Requirements specific to the program are given in the graduate program section of the University's Graduate Catalog.

5. Degree-seeking students admitted to a graduate program must enroll and begin classes at MWSU within the next academic year after receiving official notice of acceptance from the Graduate Office. An extension may be granted under extreme circumstances.

6. Degree seeking students who have left their program after being enrolled in classes may apply for readmission to the same graduate program during the following academic year. They must submit an Application for Readmission to Graduate Study. The Application for Readmission must be approved by the director of the graduate program. Previously enrolled degree seeking students who have not been enrolled in graduate courses at Missouri Western for more than one academic year must apply for admission to the graduate school and to their graduate program. The current Program of Study form will supersede the one under which the student originally enrolled unless otherwise approved by the Graduate Dean.

7. Applicants who are non-native speakers of English must receive a minimum score of 61 internet-based on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a 6.0 academic IELTS. Tests taken more than two (2) years prior to the date of application cannot be accepted.

TOEFL or IELTS scores may be waived if the non-native English-speaking applicant possesses at least a baccalaureate degree from a college or university in a country where English is the native language, or has successfully completed the equivalent of at least 24 credit hours over 2 semesters at the undergraduate level or 18 credit hours over 2 semesters at the graduate level within the past two years from a US university. The minimum GPA for either scenario will be 3.0. English as a second language, intensive English, and/or remedial English courses cannot be included in the credit hour count.

Each graduate program reserves the right to require an applicant to submit a TOEFL or IELTS score. Please check with your academic program of interest for the program's TOEFL/IELTS requirements.

Proposed Policy or Procedure:

Add the following section to the Section 2. Degree Seeking Applicants

- 8. MWSU undergraduate students may apply for acceptance to an Accelerated Graduate Program as a degree seeking student. Accelerated graduate programs allow qualified undergraduates to begin taking graduate courses toward a graduate degree during the time in which they are recognized as a senior student. Students must have a minimum overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0, meet the entrance requirements for the accelerated program and receive approval from the Graduate Program Director and Graduate Dean.**

Justification: Current undergraduates may take graduate courses only as non-degree seeking

students. This change would allow undergraduates to apply for acceptance into a specific graduate program as a degree seeking student and begin taking graduate courses without the restrictions of non-degree seeking students - non-graduate degree seeking undergraduate may not take more than 6 credits of graduate, and may only take 500 level courses. Acceptance as degree seeking students would not have these restrictions. Undergraduate students accepted into graduate program could be able to complete a graduate degree program within one year of finishing their undergraduate program. (See accompanying policy proposal on Accelerated Graduate Programs.)

Several MWSU graduate programs are interested in recruiting current undergraduates into their programs. Allowing MWSU undergraduates to begin taking graduate courses during their senior year would likely assist recruitment and graduate program growth. This is a common practice at many institutions.

This policy revision was approved by Graduate Council November 13, 2014

Changes would take place beginning in **June 2015**.

GAC Summary: This proposal will be forwarded to the President for his approval.

Presidential Action: This proposal was signed by the President on January 7, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennie McDonald
Secretary