

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S 230

MEMORANDUM

Handwritten: Re 1387

Mr. H. M. Evans

From J. E. Sayre

Secretary of Senate

Subject "Unassigned Credit"

Date June 19, 1969

As I indicated in the Special Meeting of 16 June, I am concerned over the ambiguity and apparent hollowness of the term "unassigned credit"--the third of three classifications of transfer credit in the Ellis Report.

Under present circumstances, it simply is not clear how unassigned credit will be determined and whether or not it will count towards a student's degree.

May I quote from the 1968-69 Calendar:

"A minimum of 40 hours of the 120 hours required in the general degree program will be 'electives'. These electives may be any course in the University, subject to the group requirements of the Faculty."

It is the spirit of this position that I wish to extend to transfer credit and offer the following motion to that effect:

1. That the respective Faculties determine the maximum total number of transferable "general elective credits" and maximum general elective credits that may be granted in various areas of study.

For example: The Faculty of Arts may determine that the total maximum general elective credits will be 15 of which no more than 6 can be in Fine Arts, 9 in Ancient Languages, etc.

2. That the respective Faculties specifically indicate those courses, determined by the Academic Board to be of university level, that will be accepted as general elective credits.
3. That the respective Faculties periodically review and at all times make available to colleges, prospective students, etc., the list mentioned in #2.

unassigned credit

4. That the Registrar, upon the admittance of a transfer student, designate on the student's SFU transcript those general elective credit courses transferred, followed by at least one of the following letters:
 - (A) to indicate that the Faculty of Arts accepts this course as general elective credit.
 - (S) to indicate that the Faculty of Science accepts this course as general elective credit.
 - (E) to indicate that the Faculty of Education accepts this course as general elective credit.
5. That the term "general elective credit" be substituted for "unassigned credit" throughout the Ellis Report and its passed amendments.
6. That points 2, 3, 4 apply only to transfer students from British Columbia but that the "spirit" of these points will be applied, as fairly and quickly as possible, to transfer students from out of province.

Arguments "Pro":

Prospective students and those who transfer to SFU are entitled to know if and where all the work they take prior to entry can be used towards a degree.

The procedure outlined above will give the regional colleges greater guidance in their academic course offerings. Regional colleges are, quite understandably, hesitant to offer imaginative courses, interdisciplinary courses, or courses not taught at SFU that may or may not be transferable to SFU. Knowledge of what courses are eligible to general elective credit will be very helpful to them.

Ambiguities, such as "unassigned credit", cause confusion and frustration and cause administrative difficulty in interpretation.

Mr. Evans
June 19/69

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Margaret D. N. St.

Arguments "Con":

Students who, after transfer, change Faculties may lose some of their previously assigned general elective credit. The bookkeeping procedure to keep track of such changes would be somewhat more complex than present practices.

J. E. Sayre

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