

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: Nick Heath, Secretary
Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board

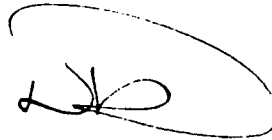
Date: 1991 09 19

Subject: Enrolment limit of International Students to the Faculty of Business Administration
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As a result of action taken at today's meeting, the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board recommends that Senate give consideration and approval to the following motion:

"That approval be given to the proposal that the quota for International Student entry to major, minor and honors programs in the Faculty of Business Administration be raised from ten percent to fifteen percent, as set out in the enclosed document, SUAB 221, and approved by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board."

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MEMORANDUM

August 19, 1991

TO: Nick Heath, Secretary, SUAB
FROM: Robert Rogow, Undergraduate Program Director,
Faculty of Business Administration
SUBJECT: Enrolment limit of International Students

The Faculty of Business Administration requests Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board approval of its proposal that the international student quota for Business be raised from its present ten percent to fifteen percent of Business majors, minors and honors students.

Rationale :

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- [1] During the years that there has been excess visa student demand for Business the University-wide seven percent quota has not been filled. This suggests that the initial Senate prediction that Business's ten percent and the University-wide seven percent would be in balance hasn't quite materialized. A higher Business percentage would still be compatible with the over-all seven percent quota.
 - [2] Unofficial past practice has resulted in a visa student proportion of Business majors that has fluctuated around fifteen percent. For example, for the six semesters through 91-1, that proportion ranged from 12.7 to 18.8 percent. This has seemed to have worked well, and has generated no problems or objections of which we are aware.
 - [3] Fifteen percent would mean that the spread between Canadian resident and visa student CGPA cut-offs would be reduced moderately, which would be more equitable.

MEMORANDUM

October 28, 1991

To: Nick Heath, Secretary, SUAB
From: Robert Rogow, Undergraduate Program Director,
Faculty of Business Administration
Subject: Enrolment Limit of International Students

The following provides a fuller rationale for our proposal, approved by SUAB, to raise the international student quota for the Faculty of Business Administration from its existing ten percent level to a level of fifteen percent.

1. In 1983 Senate established a University-wide quota of seven percent of new admissions for international students. Subsequently, in 1984, Senate approved a sub-quota of ten percent for Business Administration. Since then there has been consistent excess international student demand for admission to Business at the same time that University-wide percentages of such students have almost always been below the seven percent quota. An expectation that Business's ten percent and the University's seven percent would be in balance hasn't quite materialized. A higher Business percentage could be established without putting pressure on the existing University-wide seven percent quota.

In the last two years on which we have information, international students have been well under seven percent of all SFU students. During those two years international students were roughly fifteen percent of all Business majors:

International Students as a Percentage of All Students:

	Business	University
Year through 90-1	15.3	5.5
Year through 91-1	14.1	5.8

An increase of the Business quota would thus involve little or no increase in the actual number of international students admitted to Business, and would not threaten the maintenance of the University-wide seven percent quota.

2. The past figure of fourteen or fifteen percent of international students in Business resulted from a number of factors:

(A) problems in estimating attrition rates of pre cleared international students

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- (B) a compassionate desire on the part of personnel making admission decisions not to reject outstanding students who had failed to receive the Admissions Office pre-clearance
- (C) poor information about and controls over admission of international students within the Faculty

Problem (A) disappears with the new admission procedures already passed by Senate. (The new procedures shift admission to Business from the time of initial admission to SFU to a later time, after completion of all lower division prerequisite courses.)

Problem (B) largely disappears with the new procedures. The admission system will no longer compel us to accept some international students with cgpas of 2.8 and reject others with cgpas of 3.8, a situation that tempted personnel making Business admission decisions to exceed the ten percent quota on equity and compassionate grounds. There will now be a single cgpa cut-off applying equally to all international students.

Problem (C) disappears, with the recent improvement in information and controls established within the Faculty.

Except for the possibility of special adjustments for some of those in the pipeline during the period of transition to the new procedure, the Faculty of Business Administration is committed to observing and enforcing the quota percentage established by Senate, whatever that quota may be. It should be noted, however, that a failure to increase to 15% would mean that we would be cutting actual admission of international students by about one third from previous levels. This seems harsh, especially since the previous admission levels have not posed serious problems, internally or externally.

3. A change to fifteen percent would modestly narrow the gap between international and resident students in minimum cgpa required, a development that seems more equitable. For example, if international students had been admitted solely by SFU cgpa rank in the last two semesters the following cgpa cut-offs would have applied:

	September 1991		May 1991	
Ten percent quota	(13 students)	3.10	(19 students)	3.19
Fifteen percent quota	(20 students)	3.03	(27 students)	3.06
Resident student cgpa cut-off		2.70		2.78

As a related equity concern, a change to fifteen percent would also modestly reduce the spread in rejection rates between resident and international students. In September 1991, for example, we rejected thirty-six percent of

resident students. A ten percent quota would have yielded an eighty-two percent international student rejection rate; a fifteen percent quota would have reduced this percentage to seventy-two percent.

4. A change to fifteen percent for the Faculty of Business Administration also would be more consistent with and helpful to its efforts at globalization of its programs and its effort to forge closer ties with educational and business organizations in Pacific Rim countries.

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
APPROVED BUSINESS MAJORS**

Semester	Honor		Joint Honor		Joint Major		Major		Total	
	Student Visa	All	Student Visa	All	Student Visa	All	Student Visa	All	Student Visa	All % Student Visa
89-2	5	15	1	5	18	65	112	639	136	724 18.8%
89-3	12	26	1	4	17	88	127	975	157	1093 14.4%
90-1	11	23	-	3	16	88	128	1003	155	1117 13.9%
90-2	9	22	-	7	15	75	116	714	140	818 17.1%
90-3	7	23	-	6	15	85	121	962	143	1076 13.3%
91-1	8	27	-	6	12	89	125	1016	145	1138 12.7%

Office of Analytical Studies, August, 1991

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