

# Graduate Affairs Committee

## Minutes

3/26/13  
UL 1126

Meeting called by: Dr. Sherry Queener

### Attendees:

Sherry Queener (Chair), Rafael Bahamonde, Davide Bolchini, Oliver Chen, Fred Di Camilla, Dominique Galli, Deborah McGregor, NaShara Mitchell, Keith Morran, Jacquelynn O'Palka, Sonja Rice, John Schild, Sharon Sims, Sue Wheeler, James Wimbush, Andrew Winship, Marianne Wokeck, Constantin Yiannoutsos.

Staff: Dezra Despain

Guests: Gary Roberts, Sara Allaei, Jan Aycock, Estele Ene

Approval of the Minutes for February 26, 2013

Minutes approved

Queener

### IU Deans Report

Wimbush

First UA budget conference this Friday. Will talk about what the graduate school does and how we serve a useful and important function for all campuses. Strategic planning processes are in the works. The Bloomington Provost is putting together committees to look at the strategic plan she envisions.

There is a call for proposals for graduate school financial literacy. Our plan is to collaborate with the Office of the Associate Vice President for Human Resources in respect to surveys of graduate students regarding their literacy about retirement. This will become a survey for all our graduate students across all campuses. Financial literacy is mainly undergraduate, but we will be able to build upon it for our graduate students on all campuses.

Dr. Wimbush is making visits to regional campuses and is having excellent conversations about building graduate programs, especially online graduate programs.

Later in April he will be in Washington and will be advocating for graduate education.

GRE program has initiated opportunities for schools to do some validity studies for the new GRE.

### Purdue University Report

Story

Jon Story is in Phoenix and sends his regards.

### Associate Dean's Report

Queener

Update on Graduate Office staffing. Hired new admissions specialist, Summer Layton. She will process Purdue programs. Kim Bunch has been coming up from Bloomington to help with processing.

### Assistant Dean's Report

Mitchell

Following this meeting is a meeting for Getting You Into IUPUI. Date may need to be moved because another institution moved their date.

Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS) will be here on March 28<sup>th</sup>. They are here specifically because of National Society of Black Engineers.

Moving forward with Graduate Career Services Council.

April 24<sup>th</sup> Kerry Ann Rockquemore, founder of the National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFDD) will be in Bloomington; She has great insight into tenure track process and transitioning.

Graduate & Professional Student Government

Vinson

Not represented.
Graduate Office Reports
Curriculum Subcommittee <span style="float: right;">O’Palka</span> Approved 25 course changes, 12 new courses. Meeting again next week and hope to finish up.
Fellowship Subcommittee Report <span style="float: right;">Queener</span> Group has met twice in the last month. 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting was for Block Grants and has been distributed. Total in the budget was \$2,497,608.00. For the Block Grant, we spent \$1,835,100. We set aside \$18,000 for Travel Fellowships, which leaves \$644,000 for University Fellowships
Graduate Recruitment Council Report <span style="float: right;">Wheeler</span> St Francis Health (get all the NIC events and put here) These are opportunities for us to get into businesses and talk to them about your program
Program Review
<p><b>Master of Jurisprudence Law Degree for Non J-D Students – Approved</b></p> <p>Dean Roberts &amp; Deborah McGregor representing. Focusing on Non- J.D. Students who might benefit from knowledge of law in their respective fields; also targeting students who think they would benefit from a dual degree where law would be beneficial.</p> <p>Curriculum: 30 credit hour program. One of the benefits is that it is flexible. There will only be two required courses. The curriculum is already in place. There is also evening courses available to working professionals. Hoping to tap into IUPUI online initiative and over the next 5 years develop some online courses.</p> <p>Dean Roberts: The demand for legal knowledge is increasing, but the demand for lawyers is decreasing. The expense is too great for people who want to know law but not practice as a JD. Many colleges are moving to this kind of a degree because of the shifting market demand.</p> <p>Suggestions: introduce the certificate at the same time as this MS. Perhaps include dual degrees in the proposal.</p> <p>What are the requirements? Graduate standardized test (GRE, etc), transcripts, letter of recommendation, personal statement, interview between prospective advisor and student.</p> <p>Transferability of credit from Non JD to JD is not an option, which is typical with other JD schools. Perhaps the certificate could incentivize students to move into the JD program.</p> <p>In shared courses, there would be a different grading curve. This can pose a problem. Perhaps offer two sections of the class to separate them out administratively.</p>
<p><b>Informatics PhD Minors</b></p> <p>In the past the minors were approved administratively. We are attempting to get them in the graduate catalogue.</p> <p>PhD Health informatics could be helpful with Nursing.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Bioinformatics - <b>Approved</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Health Informatics - <b>Approved</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Human-Computer Interaction - <b>Approved</b></p>
Discussion
<p><b>EAP potential policy change</b></p> <p>Please see attached policy updates for extensive justifications of policy changes.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> change: The Graduate Office suggests that consideration be given to raising the IUPUI graduate admission standard to 6.5 for better alignment with the TOEFL iBT standard, and also to simplify policy communications across IUPUI</p>

programs. The earliest implementation could be Spring 2014, but more likely it will be Fall 2014 so everyone understands the change and that the change is communicated **APPROVED**

2<sup>nd</sup> change: The OIA suggests that consideration be given to identifying specified TOEFL iBT and IELTS scores to permit exemption from EAP testing for graduate students. The IUPUI EAP Program has endorsed exempting students with TOEFL iBT of 100 or higher, and IELTS score of 7.5 or higher from the EAP Placement Test. Timing of implementation: can be implemented Summer 2013 or Fall 2013. **APPROVED**

Other News:

Midwest Associate of Graduate Schools every year gives out an award for the best thesis. And for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, the award went to a History student from IUPUI The award will be given out at MAGS in Minneapolis. James Wimbush will be there, as will Sue Wheeler, who is giving a presentation.

Next Meeting and Adjournment (**April 23 1:30pm-3:00pm UL 1126**)

## **Recommended Changes to IUPUI's Graduate & Professional English Proficiency Requirements for Non-Native Speakers of English**

### **1. IELTS English proficiency test score requirement for graduate admission.**

The Graduate Office and OIA have successfully aligned most Purdue and IUPUI English proficiency related policy areas for master's degree admission; the only significant remaining discrepancy is Purdue's IELTS requirement of 6.5 compared to 6.0 for IUPUI. Research published by ETS suggests that IELTS score of 6.5 is a closer match to the iBT minimum of 79:

<https://www.ets.org/toefl/institutions/scores/compare/>.

*The Graduate Office suggests that consideration be given to raising the IUPUI graduate admission standard to 6.5 for better alignment with the TOEFL iBT standard, and also to simplify policy communications across IUPUI programs.*

OIA-generated data on test performance of graduate students enrolling with score of 6.0 are inconclusive, primarily due to the small data set available. Only six (6) graduate students enrolled in Fall 2012 based on an IELTS score of 6.0; all six were placed in 1-2 EAP courses.

### **2. Exempting some graduate students from EAP testing.**

Growth in international enrollment is putting pressure on capacity for EAP Placement Testing during new international student orientation. Current trends involve significant enrollment of students from India, who are more likely to be exempted than other populations, and who frequently advocate that they should be exempted from the EAP Testing process. The EAP Program has previously shared research indicating that students with iBT score of 100 or higher are not likely to be placed into EAP courses. Fall 2012 placement test data further validates this research.

*The OIA suggests that consideration be given to identifying specified TOEFL iBT and IELTS scores to permit exemption from EAP testing for graduate students.*

*The IUPUI EAP Program has endorsed exempting students with TOEFL iBT of 100 or higher, and IELTS score of 7.5 or higher from the EAP Placement Test.*

**IUPUI GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL  
ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR  
NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH**

**HISTORICAL RATIONALE:**

- With the exceptions of the IU-Graduate School and the Purdue Graduate School, few other graduate or professional programs at IUPUI had a minimum language proficiency standard for international students admitted to their programs.
- Some programs were not making an effort to determine language proficiency of non-native speakers before or after admission. Others merely needed guidance about what constitutes English proficiency.
- The campus as a whole and the Office of International Affairs (OIA) in particular often found its integrity compromised by the lack of a minimum standard. Visa documents require that OIA attest to a student's language proficiency. Because of the lack of campus-wide standards, OIA was asked to certify English proficiency for some students of questionable proficiency. This situation violated the standards of good practice for International Affairs officers.
- Standardized tests of English as a second language proficiency that measure students' preparedness for academic study are the most reliable measures of language proficiency. Personal interviews and telephone conversations are unreliable.

**POLICY:**

Effective with students admitted for fall 2000 and thereafter, to gain admission, all graduate and professional applicants to IUPUI whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in English as a second language. This policy thus applies to students enrolling in all graduate level programs including graduate certificate programs. Applicants who hold a bachelor's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited university in the U.S. or an officially recognized university in a country where English is the predominant native language will be deemed proficient. A list of countries where English has been determined to be the predominant language is appended. All other students must perform satisfactorily on a standardized test of proficiency in English as a second language that measures students' preparedness for academic study. At this time, these are the acceptable examinations and minimum scores:

- TOEFL iBT web-based test – minimum score = 79
- TOEFL paper-based test – minimum score = 550
- IELTS test – minimum score = 6.5 [effective Fall 2014]
- Pearson Test of English – Academic (PTEA) – minimum score = 54
- IUPUI EAP Placement Exam administered by the EAP program – minimum placement = no course below G011 for any student who will enroll on an F-1 or J-1 visa.
- Other objective tests of EAP proficiency and minimum scores as agreed upon by the English for Academic Purposes Program and the Office of International Affairs.

Upon arrival, all graduate and professional students admitted to IUPUI who were required to take the TOEFL must take the EAP Placement Exam administered by the EAP Program before enrolling in the first semester of courses, unless they have submitted an official TOEFL iBT score of 100 or IELTS score of 7.5. Students must take the EAP courses in which they have been placed beginning in the first or second semester of enrollment at IUPUI.

**The above policy is a MINIMUM standard for the campus. This policy does not preclude any department or school from setting a higher standard.** For example, some departments or schools may choose to require that all non-native speakers of English will take the EAP Placement Exam regardless of previous standardized test scores or education.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

The implementation of this policy will be the joint responsibility of the Graduate Office of IUPUI and the Office of International Affairs at IUPUI. This policy has been developed by these offices and reviewed by the Graduate Affairs Committee and approved by the Chancellor. Changes in this policy may be made by the same process in the future. The policy is effective with student admitted for fall 2000 and thereafter.

Originally issued: January 20, 2000  
Chancellor Gerald L. Bepko

Updated: March 26, 2013  
Graduate Affairs Committee  
Chancellor Charles R. Bantz

PTEA option added July 2010  
IUPUI Office of International Affairs

## List of countries where English is the predominant native language

Applicants who hold a bachelor's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited university from one of the following countries will be deemed proficient.

Anguilla	Irish Republic
Antigua	Jamaica
Australia	Montserrat
Bahamas	New Zealand
Barbados	St. Kitts & Nevis
Barbuda	St. Lucia
Belize	St. Vincent & the Grenadines
Bermuda	Tobago
British Virgin Islands	Trinidad
Canada (except Quebec)	Turks and Caicos Islands
Dominica	United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, & Wales)
Grand Cayman Islands	United States of America (except Puerto Rico)
Grenada	
Guyana	

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## List of countries for which a TOEFL exemption may be granted

IUPUI recognizes the following countries as having English as the official language used for conducting public business and the sole language of instruction in higher education. **At the recommendation of their academic programs,** applicants with a bachelor's or doctoral degree from an accredited university in one of these countries may be admitted for graduate study at IUPUI without presenting additional evidence of English proficiency.

Students offered admission under this category will be required to take the IUPUI English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Test and enroll in any EAP courses that are prescribed as a result of this test. In the unlikely event the test results indicate that a student is "Not Ready for IUPUI EAP courses," the student will be referred to appropriate intensive English language instruction, with admission deferred until the student is able to demonstrate sufficient proficiency in English to begin academic studies.

Botswana	Philippines
Gambia	Sierra Leone
Ghana	Singapore
Kenya	Swaziland
Lesotho	Tanzania
Liberia	Uganda
Malawi	Zambia
Namibia	Zimbabwe
Nigeria	

TOEFL Exemption policy amendment adopted May 24, 2011 by the IUPUI Graduate Affairs Committee

English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Placement Test Matrix (Graduate/Professional)		
	No Further EAP Evaluation Required	<a href="#">IUPUI EAP Test Required</a>
Holds a postsecondary degree from a <a href="#">predominantly native-English-speaking country</a> , or otherwise is a <i>native English speaker</i> .	X	
TOEFL iBT 100+ IELTS 7.5+	X	
Certificate of Completion from US-based ACGME-accredited Residency/Graduate Medical Education program	X	
All other non-native English speakers		X
Effective Summer/Fall 2013		

Summary of English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Placement Test Requirements for Graduate/Professional Students

IUPUI Office of International Affairs

March 2013