#### AGENDA ITEM NO: 8.1

#### UNIVERSITY COUNCIL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

PRESENTED BY:	Roy Dobson, Chair, Academic Programs Committee of Council
DATE OF MEETING:	February 28, 2013
SUBJECT:	Items for Information: - Implementation of revised approval processes and portal submission process - Increase in credit units for Veterinary Medicine program - Admissions report for 2013-14
COUNCIL ACTION:	For information only

### **SUMMARY:**

1. The revised Curricular Approval Processes chart as approved by University Council last month has now been implemented to streamline approval processes. A new web portal for submission of program revisions has been established to enable better tracking of proposals and to implement a database of program changes.

www.usask.ca/university\_secretary/council/committees/academic\_programs/APC-procedures/changes\_chart.php

2. The following items were approved by the Academic Programs Committee at its meeting of January 30, 2013 and are reported to Council for information:

- Veterinary Medicine program revision: A one-credit-unit communications course has been added to the Veterinary Medicine program. This will not affect tuition paid or overall program length.
- Annual Report of Admissions Qualifications and Selection Criteria 2013-14: In May, 2013, University Council approved the University's Admission Policy. This policy defines admission qualifications and selection criteria.

*Admission qualifications:* These are the credentials that an applicant must present in order to establish eligibility for admission. They include but are not restricted to objective qualifications such as high school subjects, secondary or post-secondary standing, minimum averages, English proficiency, and minimum scores on standardized tests. Qualifications may vary for some admission categories.

*Selection criteria*: These are the means by which a college assesses and ranks its applicants for admission. They include but are not restricted to admission test scores, cut-off averages, interview scores, departmental recommendations, auditions, portfolios, letters of reference, admission essays, definitions of essential abilities for professional practice, and the relative weighting to be given to the various requirements. Selection criteria may vary for some admission categories.

*Admission category*: A way to differentiate and compare applicants with similar qualifications (i.e. Regular Admission, Special Admission).

*Admission requirements:* These consist of all admission qualifications, selection criteria and administrative processes (such as completion of application form, payment of application fee, adhering to application deadlines) that an applicant must present or complete to be considered.

Changes to admissions qualifications require approval by Council and confirmation by Senate while changes to selection criteria are given final approval by the college concerned, with an annual report to Council and Senate.

To facilitate the creation of a central repository of admission qualifications and selection criteria, the Admissions & Transfer Credit Office (under the Director of Enrolment Services) has committed to documenting this information for APC. A common template was created and approved by APC. Each college has now reviewed and approved their college template, and it has been signed by the Dean. These templates reflect admission requirements for the 2013-14 academic year. These approved templates will be attached to the Admission Policy as an Appendix. This process will occur now on an annual basis.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Approval of <u>Academic and Curricular Processes at the University of Saskatchewan chart</u> Veterinary Medicine credit unit increase Annual Report of <u>Admissions Qualifications and Selection Criteria 2013-14</u> Chart to be posted in PDF version

#### Increase in total credit units is shown in red.

#### **VETERINARY MEDICINE**

#### Program changes

The college intends to add a one-credit unit communications course requirement. This will not affect overall program length or tuition costs.

Program requirements: For the Year Three requirements: Add VINT 415.1

#### New course

#### VINT 415.1 Communications

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Year 2 of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) Program.

Calendar description: This 1 credit course is designed to build the basic communication skills of the DVM Program and allow opportunity for students to practice and refine their skills using simulated clients in a controlled environment. Particular emphasis will be placed on obtaining a full history, dealing with euthanasia, disclosing medical errors, and other common scenarios in which communication skills are essential.

Rationale for introducing this course.

Good communication is a learned skill and can be applied in all aspects of life. Making students aware of verbal and non-verbal communication skills will improve their success in dealing with common situations such as taking a history from a client or resolving a conflict with a colleague. This course will be required in the Year Three requirements list.



## **Academic Programs Committee of Council**

# Annual report of Admission Qualifications and Selection Criteria 2013-14

Under the <u>University of Saskatchewan Admissions policy</u> dated May, 2012, admission to the University of Saskatchewan is based on documented qualifications as established by University Council and confirmed by Senate. These qualifications may be defined in areas of objective qualifications such as high school subjects, secondary or post-secondary standing, minimum averages, English proficiency, and minimum scores on standardized tests.

The Council and Senate have delegated to each college faculty council the authority to establish such other reasonable selection criteria as each faculty council may consider appropriate to its program of study. Selection criteria are a means by which a college can assess or rank its qualified applicants. Admission decisions for entry into the College of Graduate Studies and Research may also take into consideration the availability of suitable faculty supervisors, funding and other factors.

It is the responsibility of each college faculty council that has been delegated authority over admission decisions to ensure that the admission qualifications and selection criteria for admission, relative weighting, application procedures, deadline for applications, and the process for evaluation of applicants are published and readily available to the general public and reported annually to Council and to Senate.

Attached are the 2013-14 admission requirements for the following university programs, including required qualifications, selection criteria, and categories of admission.

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	Resource Management, Bachelor of Science in Animal Bioscience, Diploma in	
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	Technical Vocational Education )	20
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20.	Kinesiology – Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology	41
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24.	Nursing – Post-Degree BSN	51
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26.	Pharmacy & Nutrition – Bachelor of Science in Nutrition	55
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To come:

- 29. Aboriginal Teacher Associate Certificate
- 30. Post-Degree Certificate in Education: Special Education
- Certificate in Global Health 31.
- Indigenous Peoples Resource Management Certificate
  International Business Administration Certificate

Reports to be posted in PDF version.