Proposed Changes to SR 5.2.1.1 and 5.2.1.4 to accommodate International Baccalaureate Program Examinations as used by the University

Background: These proposed changes to the SR are to reflect the way UK actually uses the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program Examinations in awarding course credit, and to clarify acronyms. The use of the IB program to award course credit was added to the SR in 2002, and we have been awarding credit since about 2006. The implementation and use mirrored that of awarding Advanced Placement (AP) credit for courses. Student take IB course(s) in schools that follow the IB program curriculum (http://www.ibo.org). Locally, only Tates Creek High School has and IB program, but the numbers continue to grow each year throughout the country. After students complete an IB course, they must take the associated IB subject examination. Scores on the exam range from 1 to 7. Based on the student's performance, they are eligible to receive college course credit. The awarding of credit and the associated performance requirements is decided by the local units across campus. In the 2015-16 Bulletin, pages 74-75 define performance requirements on the exams and associated course credit awarded.

Although students are required to take IB courses, course credit is only awarded at UK for performance on the IB examinations, as detailed in the 2015-16 Bulletin (p 62). However, SR only authorize awarding credit for courses in the IB program, and not the examination. Reviewing SR 5.2.1.1, students who participate in other national programs (CLEP, AP, PEP) only receive credit based on their performance on the associated exam. The proposed changes to SR 5.2.1.1 is to properly reference that credit will be awarded for the CELP, AP, PEP, and IB examinations and to remove the reference to award credit for IB courses. The other changes to 5.2.1.1 are editorial in nature, namely, defining the acronyms used later in the SR.

Finally, SR 5.2.1.4 defines that maximum amount of credit that can be awarded for exams. The registrar's office recommended that IB exams be added to the list. Under the current rules a student could receive more than half of the credit toward an undergraduate program using IB examinations alone, or in combination with the other exams.

Please review the proposed changes to the appropriate SR, below.

5.2.1.1 Accelerated Programs

The College Board Level Examination Program (CLEP) Subject and General Examinations, the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations, the American College Testing Program Proficiency Examination Program (PEP) Subject Examinations, International Baccalaureate (IB) Program Examinations and courses evaluated by the American Council on Education for which credit recommendations are made under the Program on Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction and courses in the International Baccalaureate Program are recognized as appropriate credit for meeting degree requirements [US: 10/14/2002]. College Faculties and/or department Faculties representing the discipline, as designated by the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, shall determine and publish appropriate cut-off scores for the CLEP, AP, PEP and IB examinations and report them to the Office of Admissions and Registrar. [US: 9/13/82; US: 10/14/2002] No AP, CLEP or IB credit hours shall be letter graded. Rather, all such earned credit hours shall be shown on the student's academic record as course credit (CR). (See also SR 5.1.4)

5.2.1.4 Maximums

No more than half of the credit toward an undergraduate degree may be earned by any combination of CLEP Examinations, PEP Examinations, PONSI courses, Special Departmental Examinations, and Advance Placement Examinations, and IB Examinations.