

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE

Resolution Continuing Current TOEFL Score Requirement

#09-07/08-EP -

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that the minimum TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score for admission to HSU be set at 500 or above for the written test (and the equivalent scores for the other testing formats).

Rationale: On May 5, 2005, the Senate approved Resolution #22-04/05, which lowered the TOEFL score required for admission to HSU from 550 to 500. This resolution called for this policy to be re-evaluated at the end of a three-year trial period.

The Educational Policies committee has examined the academic records of the 23 TOEFL students who have been admitted since the policy change. Some of our conclusions:

- *Eleven of these students were eligible for admission because the standards were lowered.*
- *As of Fall 2007, only three students admitted under the new standards had GPAs below 3.0. Two of those students (GPAs 2.69 and 2.7) had scores between 500 and 550; the third student (GPA 2.62) had one of the highest TOEFL scores of any admitted student.*
- *We could see no meaningful consistent correlation among students' TOEFL scores, their overall HSU GPAs, and their GPAs in English courses.*
- *The GPAs suggest that students with TOEFL scores of 500 and above are succeeding at HSU.*
- *Accordingly, we recommend that the current TOEFL score requirement be reaffirmed.*

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY – February 26, 2008

Merry Schellinger

From: Rollin Richmond [rollinr@humboldt.edu]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 4:34 PM
To: Merry Schellinger
Cc: Mark Larson; Bob Snyder; Mary Greta; Patty Lindley; Steve Butler
Subject: Your memorandum of March 12, 2008

Dear Merry:

Thank you for the Senate minutes and the two resolutions passed by the body. My responses to the two resolutions are below.

Resolution #06-07/08-EP - I approve this resolution regarding course requirement information for course syllabi as it implements the accessible technology initiative. I also recommend that the Senate recommend moving the suggested information on Emergency Evacuation (Section C 6) of the Policy on Content of Syllabi into the Basic Information section (see the Policy document, Section B 1). It is vital that all of our students have basic information about how to protect themselves in case of a campus emergency. Including this information on all syllabi at Humboldt State University will assist in this effort. I would be most grateful if this could be accomplished during the remainder of this semester for implementation in our Summer and Fall syllabi.

Resolution #09-07/08-EP - I approve this resolution.

Rollin

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