

Brothers, Sheila C

From: Raphael Finkel [raphael@cs.uky.edu]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 5:47 PM
To: Brothers, Sheila C
Cc: Lowry, Regina; Prats, Armando; Graf, Gregory A; Hayes, Robert Z; Jackson, Vanessa P; Raphael Finkel; Stanley, Aaron D; Rachel McMahan; Lewis, Wayne D; Provost, University of Kentucky; Witt, Don
Subject: Item 12: SACSCOC Issue: Residency

Sheila,

The SAASC has approved the suggestion shown below, after introductory material, in the matter of the SACSCOC Issue: Residency.

Raphael

Item 12: SACSCOC Issue: Residency

In short: SACSCOC complained that UK is not compliant with regard to the rule that a minimum of 25% of credit hours must be taken while resident at UK. In particular, SACSCOC wants us to say something like:

Credits earned through special examination, Study Abroad, or the National Student Exchange do not count toward the minimum 25 percent of credit hours required for a baccalaureate degree.

Relevant Senate rules:

5.2.1.2.B.5

Credit earned by special examination may be counted as residence credit by the dean of the student's college. The limits on maximum loads are waived in cases where the excess is due to special examination credits.

5.4.1 RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

For an undergraduate degree,

- (1) a least 25% of the credits,
- (2) not less than 30 credit hours,
- (3) a minimum of thirty (30) of the last thirty-six (36) credits

presented for the degree must be taken from the University.

Any request for waiver by veterans of any of the above requirements, or a request by other students for a waiver of requirement (2) or (3), must be presented for approval to the dean of the student's college. Students who wish to satisfy the above requirement with credit earned through such methods as independent study by correspondence, special examination, CLEP [College Level Examination

Program], and other methods which limit the opportunity for active exchange between students and instructors must have the prior approval of their department chair and college dean. At the end of each academic year the dean of each college shall report to the Senate Council, through the University Registrar, the number of waivers granted in the categories of (1), (2) and (3) above, and for each waiver granted the extent of departure that was approved from the given credit hour requirement in (1), (2) or (3).

Courses taken under the Study Abroad and National Exchange Student [sic; should read National Student Exchange] programs (and for which students pay their tuition to the University of Kentucky) are considered as courses taken at UK for purposes of both Rule 5.4.1's residency requirement and for graduates to be conferred commencement honors at the time of award of their degrees under sections A-D of Rule 5.4.2.2.

9.14 RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

A requirement for a degree which specifies the minimum period during which one must be registered in order to qualify for a degree. Residence is intended to provide an adequate contact with the University and its faculty for each student who is awarded a degree. (See Section 5.4.1)

Notes:

1. SACSCOC wants to ensure that a UK degree is taught, at least in a significant portion, by UK. They don't count it as sufficient that UK evaluate the student's work (for instance, by examination).
2. The rules as they stand make a distinction between courses taken in residence and courses taken by correspondence. Nowhere are these terms actually defined. There is a certain amount of loose language, too: "counted as residence credit", "taken from the University". It is unclear whether these two expressions have the same meaning.
3. The rules as they stand look reasonable, except for the paragraph of 5.4.1 about Study Abroad and the National Student Exchange. If the Study Abroad is taught by a UK faculty member, it should count as UK-resident; otherwise, it should not. Courses taken via the National Student Exchange (inter-university exchange within the United States, Canada, and United States protectorates) shouldn't count as resident.

Approved suggestion:

Define that a "course taken from UK" means a course with a UK number instructed by a UK instructor. It does not include courses taken elsewhere with credit transfer to UK, courses taken abroad (except for courses taught by UK faculty), credits achieved by examination, or courses taken through the National Student Exchange. It does include courses delivered by correspondence or distance learning.

Remove the paragraph from 5.4.1 starting "Courses taken under the Study Abroad".

Continue to allow exceptions for courses not taken from UK to be considered as if they were courses taken from UK, requiring prior Chair and Dean approval with yearly report to the SC.

Brothers, Sheila C

From: Anderson, Heidi Milia
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Blonder, Lee
Cc: Brothers, Sheila C; Greasley, Philip A
Subject: Senate Council help on SACSCOC matter - please

Dear Lee;

As mentioned in my December 3, 2012 email, there were several issues cited as noncompliant by the SACSCOC Off-Site committee, and I appreciate the Senate Council and Senate's resolution of one of the issues.

The second issue is as follows:

The SACS reviewers also raised concerns about what they consider to be "interesting exceptions that also qualify for residency." They specifically named "credit earned by special examination and courses taken under the Study Abroad and National Exchange Student [should read National Student Exchange] programs." For that reason I request your review of the desirability of further modifying UK's minimum credit hour requirement to state something to the effect of: **"Credits earned through special examination, Study Abroad, or the National Student Exchange do not count toward the minimum 25 percent of credit hours required for a baccalaureate degree."**

Again, I ask that you please let the Senate Council/Senate know that I express the deepest to appreciation to Dr. Davy Jones, Chair of the Senate Rules committee. Dr. Jones has been extremely helpful in assisting with these matters to ensure our compliance with the SACSCOC standards. It is a pleasure to conduct shared governance in such an amenable way.

Of course if you have any questions about this issue, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Heidi

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