

Foreign Language Requirement

Recommendation from SREC: That the Senate Council act for the University Senate to continue in effect the previous University Studies Program Foreign Language policy until such time as the University Senate determines its final policy, and that the Bulletin language be amended as described here.

Background. Ben Withers, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education requested that the SREC examine the issue that the foreign language requirement that had existed under the old University Studies Program (USP) was not expressly included in the new UK Core program when UK Core superceded USP. The Senate Council on Dec. 3, 2012 acted for the Senate to extend the USP requirement for another academic year (2012-2013) with the anticipation that a formal proposal would be forthcoming for the University Senate to act upon to establish an updated policy for the foreign language requirement that would have effect for the 2013-2014 academic year. http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/senate_council/minutes/2012-2013/SC%20Minutes%20December%203,%202012_TOSC_TOPOST.pdf

However, Dr. Withers reported this week

“Davy—

I have now a draft of the faculty committee’s report on the foreign language requirement. Despite their best efforts, we will not be able to resolve this issue this academic year. I propose that the SREC consider bringing forth the revisions to the Bulletin language that you suggest, below. I am hopeful that we can resolve this early in the fall semester.”

From: Jones, Davy

Sent: Sunday, February 02, 2014 2:16 PM

To: Withers, Benjamin C; Carvalho, Susan E

Cc: Beattie, Ruth E; Blonder, Lee; Brion, Gail M; Grossman, Robert B; Pienkowski, David; Wood, Connie; Brothers, Sheila C

Subject: RE: Motion from SC RE: Foreign Language Requirement

Ben et al.

I am concerned specifically here on the foreign language policy that the language currently in the Bulletin, arising from the Senate Council's action Dec. 3, 2012

http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/senate_council/minutes/2012-2013/SC%20Minutes%20December%203,%202012_TOSC_TOPOST.pdf

is actually not in effect for new matriculates since fall 2013, because it was a stop-gap to apply to the 2012-2013 academic year matriculates (the idea being that before the lapse a new policy would have been recommended and acted upon by the Senate, which hasn't happened yet apparently because of infrastructural support issues)...

May I suggest that if the SC will act to restore as in effect the current Bulletin language, that it be slightly edited as follows,[Note: the SREC has made additional edits below]

*Any first-time freshman or transfer student must **either, (1) demonstrate that they have ~~completed~~ passed** two high school credits in a single foreign language, or two semesters at the postsecondary level. ~~A student who has not completed the high school foreign language requirement will be required to~~ **or (2) take pass** a two-semester sequence in one foreign language at the University of Kentucky prior to graduation.*

The SREC interpreted that it was probably not the intention of the Senate Council that the previous USP foreign language requirement would lapse before the Senate acted on what would be the replacement policy.