

Brothers, Sheila C

From: Graf, Gregory A
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2015 3:46 PM
To: Brothers, Sheila C
Cc: Hippisley, Andrew R; Botts, Hannah M; ganpathy; Liu, Chunming; Prats, Armando; Rompf, Elizabeth L; Schultz, Robert; Scott, Leslie K; Yost, Scott A
Subject: BA-JD

The proposed admission standards for the BA-JD program have received a majority approval by email vote as written.

Thanks,

Greg

Gregory A Graf
Associate Professor
University of Kentucky
Pharmaceutical Sciences
Saha Cardiovascular Research Center
Barnstable Brown Diabetes and Obesity Center

Memorandum

To: Admissions Committee

From: Mary J. Davis, Admissions Committee Chair

CC: Dean David A. Brennen, Associate Dean Doug Michael

Date: December 10, 2014

Re: Recommendation for amendment to UK Law Admissions policy to reflect 6 year BA/JD

Dear Admissions Committee Members:

The College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) has finalized its proposal to endorse a 6 year BA to JD degree program (also referred to as a 3+3 program). The Educational Policy Committee of A&S (the equivalent to our Curriculum Committee) voted unanimously to approve this degree program on December 2, 2014. The proposal is attached for your review. Toni and I worked with those at A&S responsible for putting this degree program together and are happy to answer any questions you may have about it. Our next step is to approve a change to our College of Law Admissions policies to reflect our willingness to consider applicants from this program.

As I explained to the faculty at our September meeting, A&S decided to pursue this degree program option with English, History, and Political Science majors. The Chairs of those departments, along with the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Anna Bosch, and Dean Kornbluh, thoroughly explored all issues surrounding this proposed degree plan. I highlight a few of the program's details for you below:

- The degree program will be named the BLUE program (Bachelor to Law Undergraduate Education). This name was chosen after many names were vetted. We were asked to consider this name, along with others, and BLUE met with the greatest support. An undergraduate applicant will apply to the History BLUE, Political Science BLUE, or English BLUE degree program during their senior year of high school.
- Everyone at A&S understands that acceptance into the BLUE program does not guarantee admission to UK Law and that each BLUE program participant must seek separate admission to UK Law during their junior year.
- A separate A&S Admissions Committee will select applicants for admission to the BLUE program, including a representative from the law school.
- The minimum requirements to apply to the BLUE program will be 29 ACT and 3.5 (unweighted) GPA. As a point of reference, the Honors Program's baseline requirements for admission are 28 ACT and 3.5 (unweighted) GPA and the minimums for competitive freshman scholarships (including Singletary, Presidential, and Commonwealth) are 31 ACT and 3.5 (unweighted) GPA.

- A newly hired pre-law advisor will work with the BLUE program students on curricular choices. In addition, the advisor will ensure, as much as possible, the applicants are prepared for law school when the time comes to help address any concerns with maturity.

Based upon this information and the EPC's approval of the BLUE degree program proposal, I propose we amend our Admissions policies to reflect this new degree program by accepting students who have successfully completed three (3) years of undergraduate study, but who will not have a bachelor's degree at the time of admission to UK Law. These students will receive an undergraduate degree from UK at the successful completion of their first year of law school. Below is my formal recommendation:

Senate Rules 4.2.3.1.A:

Statement of Admissions Policy for Applicants for an Entering Class will be amended as follows (underlining reflects new material):

1. The applicant must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited Institution. If the applicant is a student at the University of Kentucky and is enrolled in an approved Bachelor to Law Undergraduate Program (BLUE) program, the applicant will be considered for admission without having a bachelor's degree at the time of enrollment.

Amendment of the UK College of Law Admissions policies will become effective upon final approval by all appropriate University governing bodies of the underlying Bachelor's to Law Undergraduate Education (BLUE) degree programs.

Please let Toni or me know if you have any questions about the BLUE program or the suggested amendment to our Admissions policy. If you would like to meet on this issue, I am happy to schedule an Admissions Committee meeting for that purpose. If you approve this policy amendment, I would like to submit it to the faculty for approval at the December faculty meeting.

Thanks,

Mary