

Academic Council Minutes

August 17, 2016

Midwestern State University

The Academic Council did not meet on Wednesday, August 17, 2016. Voting members of the Council voted electronically.

Voting members:

Dr. Marcy Brown Marsden, Dean, College of Science and Mathematics
 Dr. Matthew Capps, Interim Dean of the Billie Doris McAda Graduate School
 Dr. James Johnston, Dean, Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services
 Dr. Michaelle Kitchen, Interim Dean, West College of Education
 Dr. Terry Patton, Dean, Dillard College of Business Administration
 Dr. Martin Camacho, Dean, Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts
 Dr. Sam Watson, Dean, Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Voting members not available were the Student Government Association Vice President and the Faculty Senate Vice-Chair.

Old Business

The following item was presented electronically to the voting members of the Council in August. However, due to concerns and questions voiced by members of the Council, the item was tabled until the next meeting of the Academic Council. (*open*)

International Services Undergraduate Catalog Changes Request – Dr. Glean

Item One: Recognizing that the international population utilizes various testing services to establish their language preparedness, we would like to include the follows tests to the recognized roster in addition to the TOEFL and IELTS currently listed. An ITP score of 4.0, or a PTE score of 53, will be acceptable for meeting the language requirement as equivalent to the TOEFL--IBT score of 79 and the IELTS score of 6.0 band.

Item Two: In order to sync the deadline dates and to extend the window for processing documentation due to the increased efficiency of electronic processing, we have amended our deadline dates as follows:

Fall ---May 15
 Spring---September 15
 Summer----March 15.

These dates will not hinder our ability to process students in a timely manner and will increase the number of prospective students, particularly transfer students that we can reach.

New Business

The Office of Admissions proposed the following “points of information” change that needs to be included in the 2016-2018 undergraduate catalog. *Information Item; no vote required.*

The College Board redesigned their SAT this year and as a result students taking the SAT now have different scores. All universities across the country have to now post their “new” SAT scores. There has been no policy change in the admissions criteria, only the minimum SAT scores have changed because the SAT test itself has changed.

The first new test was given March 2016. There are several changes with the “new SAT” that affect the tests’ format, scoring, timing etc. The bigger changes include:

- An optional essay
- Fewer multiple choice questions
- No penalty for wrong answers
- Return to a 1600-point scale

As part of the rollout, the College Board has provided concordance tables that universities can use to determine their respective minimum requirements based on the new SAT scoring methodology. For students applying to MSU, the minimum score requirements for automatic admission will now be as follows:

Old SAT (prior to March 2016)	New SAT (March 2016 and later)	ACT
990	1070	21
1070	1140	23
1110	1180	24

It is important to understand that admission requirements are not changing, the new SAT scores simply reflect that changes in the scoring methodology now used by the College Board.

*Additional information on next page.



Texas Higher Education
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Presidents, Chancellors, Chief Academic/Informational Officers at Texas public Institutions of Higher Education

FROM: R. Jerel Booker, Assistant Commissioner, Division for College Readiness and Success

DATE: July 25, 2016

RE: Revised SAT Exemption – Approved

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the college readiness benchmarks for the new SAT (administered March 5, 2016 and later) at its July 21, 2016 meeting. The revised rule for Texas Success Initiative (TSI) exemption purposes is as follows:

Texas Administrative Code, Rule 4.54(a)(1)(B) SAT:

(i) SAT administered prior to March 2016: a combined critical reading (formerly "verbal") and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on the critical reading test shall be exempt for both reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment; a combined critical reading (formerly "verbal") and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment;

(ii) SAT administered on or after March 5, 2016: a minimum score of 480 on the Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) test shall be exempt for both reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment; a minimum score of 530 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment. There is no combined score.

(iii) Mixing or combining scores from the SAT administered prior to March 2016 and the SAT administered on or after March 5, 2016 is not allowable.

The newly-approved rule becomes effective on August 10, 2016 in order to allow institutions time to respond. However, an institution may determine that the immediate application of the approved rule is in the best interest of its students.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND SERVICE PROVIDER

Respectfully submitted.

Deb Schulte
Assistant to the Provost