



Senate Committee on Academic Development
Report to Senate - Meeting of April 28, 2011

**Proposal to introduce an Admission Policy for Direct-Entry
Undergraduate Aboriginal Candidates**

Introduction

The proposal to introduce an Admission Policy for Direct-Entry Undergraduate Aboriginal Candidates was reviewed by the Senate Committee on Academic Development (SCAD) at its meeting of April 6, 2011. S. Pinchin, Associate University Registrar – Undergraduate Admission and J-A. Brady, University Registrar, attended the SCAD meeting to speak to the proposal and to answer questions from members of SCAD. Members of SCAD were also provided with background documentation provided by the Office of the University Registrar. A copy of the documentation is attached to the report.

Analysis and Discussion

The following highlights are noted:

- The aim of the proposed, university-wide policy, is to encourage increased participation by members of the Aboriginal community in post-secondary education;
- The proposal represents an additional and alternative pathway for admission to the first year of a full-time, direct-entry undergraduate degree program;
- The number of students admitted each year under this policy will be determined in the annual enrolment plan after consultation with the relevant faculties and schools;
- While all direct-entry undergraduate programs will fall under the umbrella of the university-wide Admission Policy for Direct-Entry Undergraduate Aboriginal Candidates, each program will be able to apply their own practices while assessing applications from Aboriginal candidates;
- Colleagues in Four Directions Aboriginal Centre will be consulted, if necessary, when considering evidence of Aboriginal ancestry.

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C o n c l u s i o n s / R e c o m m e n d a t i o n

Recommendation:

that Senate approve the proposal to adopt an Admission Policy for Direct-Entry Undergraduate Aboriginal Candidates effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan P. C. Cole, PhD, FRSC
Chair, Senate Committee on Academic Development

Committee Members:

Members

A. Brown, School of Nursing
S. Cole, Deputy Provost (Chair)
J. Emrich, Faculty of Law
P. Fachinger, Department of German
N. Fulford, B.A. (Hons) '12
K. Gossen, J.D. '12
P. Oosthuizen, Academic Colleague
T. Shearer, School of Business
R. Ware, Department of Economics
P. Watkin (Secretary)

Admission Policy For Aboriginal Candidates To First-Entry Undergraduate Programs

In recognition of the need to encourage participation by members of the Aboriginal community in post-secondary education, Queen's University offers Aboriginal candidates an additional and alternative pathway for admission to the first year of a full-time, first-entry undergraduate degree program.

Aboriginal candidates must apply through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) and should expect to meet the general admission conditions for each program (at minimum the university admission average) and deadlines for undergraduate admission, including completion of the Personal Statement of Experience (PSE) and any applicable supplementary essays.

Offers of admission will be made to Aboriginal candidates whose total application shows strong evidence of academic preparedness and potential. Students who are admitted under this policy will be encouraged to make use of the academic advising and academic support services available to all students at Queen's University. The Aboriginal Council of Queen's University, the Queen's Native Students Association, and the Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre are important resources for Aboriginal students. In addition, the students will be introduced to the contacts and services available at the Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre during the application process, upon admission, and during Orientation Week. Queen's University encourages students to access these services throughout their time at Queen's.

Candidates seeking admission consideration under this policy should submit a separate letter to Undergraduate Admission stating that they wish to be considered under this policy and provide evidence of Aboriginal ancestry. An Aboriginal Person is considered an Indigenous Person of North America (treaty status, non-status, Métis or Inuit). In addition to the student's Personal Statement of Experience, admission to Queen's University will depend on the assessment of the student's program pre-requisites (or equivalences) as well as the student's overall average. The number of students admitted each year under this policy will be determined in the annual enrollment plan upon consultation with the faculties and schools.