

UC 10690 09F

TO: Larry Williams, Chair
Undergraduate Council

APPROVED NOV 18 2009
[Signature]

FROM: Simon Bott
Academic Policies and Procedures Subcommittee

SUBJECT **Subcommittee Report November 18th, 2009**

DATE: November 10th, 2009

The committee met on October 21st. Members participating in the discussions (including other email communication): Amanda Baumle, Barbara Carlin, William Munson, Charles Peters, Kevin Simon, Rebecca Achée Thornton, Louis Williams, Djuana Young, Mariam Zakaria and Simon Bott. Guests present were Michelle Lestage, Joshua Bush, and David Harden.

The following document was discussed:

UC 10472 09F Graduation with Honors

This document suggested that the current standards for graduation with (Latin) honors be reduced from 66 to 60 hours. The primary justification for this was so that transfer students would still be able to bring in their maximum number of hours yet still graduate with a "honored" UH Degree. The SGA passed (unanimously) a resolution that was identical in scope.

Given previous recent discussions of council, before discussing this document, we reviewed the standard at relevant Texas institutions. These are as follows:

School	Hours required	GPA requirements*
Texas A&M	At least 60 hours at A&M; all A&M courses count	3.90, 3.70, 3.50
Texas Tech	At least half of degree including senior year. All Tech courses count.	3.90, 3.70, 3.50
North Texas	30 UNT hours; ALL COURSES count	3.90, 3.70, 3.50
UT	At least 60 hours at UT; all UT courses count	Percentage by college. Recent levels are 3.97, 3.88, 3.73
UTA	At least 45 hours at UTA;	3.90, 3.70, 3.50 – these can only be for the last 45 hours as long as overall GPA is 3.7, 3.5, 3.3
UTD	At least 45 hours at UTD; all UTD courses count	Percentage by college. Recent levels are > 3.89, 3.70, 3.46

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*listed for summa, magna, and cum laude.

Using these data, the committee recommends the following policy change:

- a) As the state has mandated a 120 hour degree plan, and UH accepts up to 66 hours of transfer work, we suggest that Honors graduation require **54 hours in UH courses, ALL OF WHICH MUST BE A,B,C,... grades (letter-grade courses)**
- b) The GPA requirement be raised to **3.90, 3.70, 3.50** from the current values of 3.75, 3.50, 3.25 to conform to the standards across the state. The GPA should be calculated for **ALL students based on their last 54 UH hours**. This calculation should include all hours completed in the semester in which the first of those 54 hours was completed.

To be effective fall 2010 for all students entering UH fall 2010 and after.