Committee's Functions:

"To study the admission policies of the University of Wisconsin as they apply to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In case local conditions seem to warrant local variations in admission policy, the Committee shall make recommendations to the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee which, if approved, shall be transmitted to the University administration for possible adoption. Liaison with the University Admissions Council shall be maintained through the members who are on both committees." (UMM FM 11-13-58, 5-14-64, and 11-11-65; PD 333).

Meetings:

The Committee met four times during the past year. The All-University Admissions Council also met four times, once in Milwaukee and three times in Madison. Since the work of the Council was immediately related to the work of the Committee, the same agenda applied. The Chairman of the Committee and the Director of Admissions constituted the Committee's representation on the Council and acted as liaison between the two groups.

"Special Student": On November 2, 1970, and again on November 30th, the Committee directed its attention primarily to the definition and discussion of the category of "Special Student", since Admissions counselors and advisors required clarification of that category if they were to act properly with respect to applicants who did not fall into regular categories. Beyond the definition of Special Student established by L & S -- i.e. the student with a baccalaureate degree who wants further course work, and the student, usually foreign, who cannot supply credentials to support regular admission -- a third category of applicants required status definition, consisting of

1. those who have not completed the conventional requirements for a high school diploma;
2. who cannot offer the required pattern of high school courses;
3. who have attended a non-accredited high school, such as an Independent school; and
4. who completed high school some years ago and do not wish to take SAT or ACT tests.

When such applicants are admitted as exceptions, L & S usually prefers to admit them as regular rather than as Special students.

The School of Education lists four categories of Special Students, each of which imposes its own criteria for admissions. It became obvious to the committee that a revision of Admissions Requirements for the entire University System was required to establish a workable policy in these areas, which would be uniform for all the units within the System so as to facilitate transfer of students from one unit to another with a minimum of difficulty.

The question of admission of Special Students was seen as pertinent to the larger problem facing public institutions today, that of Open Admissions. The decision of the Committee at this time was to continue to treat the question of Special Students on an ad hoc basis until the Committee and the Council were able to determine the larger issue of general admission requirements to the University. Any consideration involving the enlarging or changing of admissions policies to include a greater number of Wisconsin residents must take into account, however, the problem of supportive funds.
Geometry Requirement: A second problem that was discussed at both these meetings was the existing mathematics requirement for admission, which prescribed algebra and geometry as requirements for admission. A survey of the various units within UWM with respect to the necessity of geometry resulted in various and diverse views.

Both these questions, and the larger issues which they implied, were discussed by the All-University Admissions Council at its meeting on December 1st, where it was decided that each unit within the System would draw up a proposal for revision of the requirements for undergraduate admission in the hope that a new admissions policy satisfactory to all the units could be formulated for eventual submission to the Faculty Council or Assembly, or both, and eventually to the Board of Regents.

At a meeting of the Committee on January 11, 1971, the UWM proposal was discussed and drafted. The emphasis of the proposal was on greater flexibility in admissions procedures and requirements; the specific changes suggested were largely incorporated in the Council's deliberations on January 12, February 11, and March 26th.

University College: A special proposal for UWM was also formulated in order to encourage the University to define its goals and policies in a way that would serve a more popular function. Towards this end, and in order to encourage all individuals whatever their background by heritage, it is proposed that a new academic unit (possibly a University College) be established for these purposes:

A. to provide basic curricula and/or courses designed to develop the skill, insight, and intelligence the student brings from his heritage and environment; to enable the student to advance in the 'main stream' of academia in ways that will reinforce his personal and social roles; to assist the student in understanding how ideas, concepts, and subjects are related to him and to each other;

B. to provide sub-college or compensatory courses and necessary supplementary resources for eventual advancement to university level courses.

It was recognized by the Committee that such an academic unit must have funding for support resources -- tutoring, teaching/learning aids, and student financial assistance -- if it is to succeed.

Until the University can act formally to establish its broader community role, the Committee urged that

(1) units admitting freshmen request additional funding sufficient to support admission of a substantially greater number of students to existing and new special-purpose programs;
(2) these units institute curriculum additions and innovations to meet the needs of students in these programs; and
(3) adequate support for staff and facilities for tutoring, counseling, academic aids and student financial assistance be provided.

The proposal for a University College of the type described above has been sent by the Committee to the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor. It now rests with the Academic Program Curriculum Committee.

At subsequent meetings of both the Committee and the Council, the various requirements for admission were decided upon. The final document, attached to this report, is now submitted for the consideration of the Faculty Senate, with the understanding that procedures for formal UWM approval will be established through administrative channels.

UWM FAC. DOC. NO. 674, MAY 13, 1971
Recommendation to the Faculty:

1. That the Faculty endorse in principle the new "Requirements for Admission to the University of Wisconsin as a New Freshman. A Proposal for Revision by the University of Wisconsin Admissions Council, March 26, 1971" (attached).

2. That the Faculty consider the possibility of establishing a University College as outlined above as an independent unit within the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, offering to students special studies along with the preparation necessary in order to carry on higher-level college work. The unit should be so organized that students may move flexibly from courses in it to courses on a university level whenever they show readiness.

The establishment of such a unit would ensure continuing high standards for the University while providing for those students who temporarily could not meet high standard admission requirements. It would strengthen the urban commitment of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee while helping it fulfill its obligations to the community as a whole rather than to selected groups.

Business Still Pending: None

Respectfully submitted

Committee: Lillian B. Miller, Chairman
Frank Cassell, Secretary
Corliss Phillabaum
Donald Buettner
B. R. Siebring
Oral Robbins

Student Members: Barbara Seater

Ex-Officio: Vincent Allison
Michael F. Croft
Arden C. Eichsteadt
Dean James Van Vleet
Dean Herman Weil
Dean John Stillman
Dean D. Robinson

Visitors: Thomas Burton
Carol Wright
Requirements for Admission to the University of Wisconsin

as a New Freshman

A Proposal for Revision by the
University of Wisconsin Admissions Council, March 26, 1971

PREAMBLE

The admission regulations currently operating throughout the University of Wisconsin were adopted in 1963 and have been subsequently applied to each of the new campuses as they came into existence. The All-University Admissions Council has reviewed these standards for their appropriateness in the 1970's.

The ultimate test of the quality of this University is the students who earn their U.W. degrees. It is important to remember, however, that there is a difference between the requirements which may be suitable for admission and those requirements which the various academic units determine as necessary for graduation. Admission standards play only a small role in establishing the quality of U.W. degrees; quality principally results from competent faculty work and diligent student effort.

We have historically used admissions criteria to judge whether the prospective student who fulfills our requirements is prepared to do satisfactory work at the University. The Council has been mindful of the new developments in admissions policies, such as the City University of New York has instituted, and are cognizant of the debate between open-enrollment advocates and its opponents. The Council believes however, that an unregulated flood of entrants would severely tax our ability to maintain an atmosphere conducive to the learning process. On the other hand, it also believes that our facilities must be made available to all who demonstrate potential as well as actual achievement, and it recommends therefore that a policy of flexibility in the administering of admission standards be adopted.

To meet the needs of aspiring groups within our society, the University has adopted a series of ad hoc modifications of its 1963 policies which have meant that students are admitted along a continuum which ranges from pre-freshmen on the one hand to post-freshmen (advanced standing) on the other. Some students are admitted for whom it is expected that their course to a baccalaureate degree will take five years while others may take tests which would qualify them to earn the same degree in three years. Special note here should be made that this is in fact the same quality degree in each case; no one is admitted who cannot reasonably be expected to earn the high quality Wisconsin degree, but it has been recognized that some may require more personal attention than others to achieve that objective.

The proposed changes reflect the premises behind the adoption of ad hoc modifications; they also demonstrate the Council's deep concern for making the University opportunity available to increasing number of citizens of our State. They take into account also the differing missions of the various units of this University without detracting from the overall quality of a U.W. degree. In seeking unanimity for at least minimum admission requirements, the Council is seeking to develop a basic standard which will facilitate inter-unit transfers of students without undue penalties.
There is, however, a limit to which basic standards can be unanimous when the missions and immediate publics each unit serves are not, and are not meant to be, the same. Units, or even schools within units, may need to impose additional or more specific requirements in order that students may successfully commit themselves to a given program of study.

Administration of such a program of variable standards is more difficult and would require increased communication with the high schools, but the Council feels that the advantages offered by such a program to the prospective students and to the operation of the curricula within the high schools of this State far outweigh whatever difficulties may be created in its administration. We have accepted as a basic principle that this University does not intend to interfere with the freedom of our high schools to determine their own requirements for graduation.
Admissions Committee
University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee
April 1, 1971

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
FOR NEW FRESHMEN

Revision Proposed by
UW Admissions Council, March 26, 1971

I. Freshmen applicants must satisfy either A, B, or C below in order to be considered for admission.

A. Graduation from a recognized high school. A recognized high school is one which either, (1) is accredited by a regional accrediting association or state university, or (2) is recognized or accredited by a state department of public instruction or its equivalent.

B. Possession of a high school equivalency certificate or diploma from a recognized high school, school system, or state department of public instruction based on the GED examination, the Wisconsin High School Equivalency Examination or other established criteria.

C. Satisfactory completion of the GED examination based on the standards set by the Wisconsin State Department of Public Instruction for awarding high school equivalency certificates.

Applicants who do not satisfy A, B, or C will be considered on an individual basis by the Director of Admissions.

II. Pattern - Freshmen applicants must satisfy the minimum high school unit requirements indicated below; students are encouraged to complete additional academic courses.

Distribution of the 16 Units of High School work:

English........................................3 units
Mathematics**................................2 units
Additional Academic Electives from the areas of Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Humanities, Mathematics**, and Foreign Language........7 units
Electives....................................4 units

** Algebra, geometry, trigonometry, analytic geometry, calculus.

UWM FAC. DOC. NO. 674, MAY 13, 1971

Current Requirements: Proposed by UW Admissions Council and Approved by UW Board of Regents, June 3, 1963

I. A student from Wisconsin who is a graduate of an accredited high school may be admitted to the University if he satisfied requirements A and B below.*

A. His high school work must include 16 units distributed as follows:

English........................................3 units
Mathematics (Algebra and Geometry)........2 units
Two of the following:
   Foreign language..................2 units
   History and Social Studies....2 units
   Natural Science.................2 units
Seven elective units of which at least three will be from the fields of English, Speech, Mathematics+, Foreign Language, History, Social Studies, and Natural Science........7 units

+ Mathematics courses in the algebra, geometry, trigonometry, analytic geometry, calculus series.
Students admitted on the basis of an equivalency certificate or diploma or GED examination shall be considered to have fulfilled these minimum requirements. Applicants lacking these minimum requirements will be considered on an individual basis by the Director of Admissions.

III. Freshmen applicants must present evidence that they are prepared to do satisfactory work in the University.

Wisconsin students who rank in the upper half of their class and submit either ACT or SAT test scores will ordinarily be considered to have met these requirements. Students whose credentials suggest that they may have difficulty may be considered if, on the basis of test scores or other evidence, they appear to have reasonable probability of success.

For students who have been out of school for several years, evidence of maturity and motivation will be considered. For minority students, special attention in the admissions decision will be given to: (1) the nature and type of courses taken in high school, (2) commitment to educational goals and especially (3) statements on maturity, motivation, and other personal qualities of the student as supplied by the student, his high school, and character references. Standardized tests, although required, will not be a major factor in the admission of minority students.

IV. Students not admitted according to the above criteria may appeal to the appropriate academic officer.

B. Evidence that the student is prepared to do satisfactory work in the University (grade distribution and class rank will be considered). Ordinarily a Wisconsin student who meets requirements in section A and ranks in the upper half of his class will be admitted without consideration of supplemental tests or examinations.

In those instances where the high school record and rank indicate the student is likely to encounter difficulty in University studies, scores on admissions tests as specified by the Admissions Committee (at present ACT or SAT) will be used to determine eligibility for admission. (As at present all students will take these specified tests which will continue to be used for counseling and other purposes.)

If the high school record and admission test scores indicate the student probably will encounter difficulty at the University, he may qualify for admission by passing achievement tests specified by the Office of Admissions--usually three tests including English, Mathematics, and one other subject.

*EXCEPTIONS TO THE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN SECTIONS A AND B CAN BE MADE ONLY BY THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF THE STUDENT'S CHOICE