

M E M O

TO: Directors of Graduate Programs

FROM: Betty Wood *BW*

DATE: October 5, 2006

RE: University accepting IELTS as alternative to TOEFL

As we begin the application cycle for next year I would like to go over the University's policy concerning IELTS scores. Earlier this summer Bill Reisinger sent an announcement to DEO's stating that Provost Hogan approved a policy of accepting International English Language Testing System (IELTS) scores from international students for a one-year trial period. During the next academic year The University will accept IELTS as certification of English language proficiency for admission of students whose first language is not English. The IELTS will be accepted as an alternative to TOEFL.

Maureen Burke, Coordinator of the English as a Second Language Program helped determine the minimum IELTS score for admission. It was decided for graduate admission the score should be 7.0 with no section score lower than 6.0. IELTS has the same sections as TOEFL (listening, reading, writing, and speaking). During the trial period, all students submitting scores from the IELTS examination must take the on-campus English Proficiency Evaluation (EPE) prior to their first UI registration. Students held for the EPE will receive information about it in their letter of admission.

At this time IELTS score reports will be in paper format only. When the Admissions Office receives a score report we will copy it and send it to the appropriate department. IELTS scores will not be on any web reports you download.

For further information about IELTS view their website at www.ietls.org. For information about interpreting score results, contact Maureen Burke at 335-5630. If you have other questions about IELTS, contact Becky Hanson, Assistant Director of International Admissions, at 335-1529.

Please share this information with others in your department who work with international applicants.