EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION
MAY 24, 2016

To be adopted:

Proposed Changes to Selection Criteria – Transfer Applicants into Psychology

PRESENT:

College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. Admission is selective based on GPA in all transferrable coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.4. Neuroscience, and Psychology applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.7 in all transferable college coursework. For further information call Student Academic Affairs at (951) 827-3683.

PROPOSED:

College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. Admission is selective based on GPA in all transferrable coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.4. Neuroscience and Psychology applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.7 in all transferable college coursework. Psychology applicants must also have a minimum of one UC transferable mathematics course equivalent to Math 004 or higher. For further information call Student Academic Affairs at (951) 827-3683.

Justification:
Over the past five years, 2010 Fall through 2014 Fall, 38% (124/328) of psychology transfer students who did not complete one UC transferable mathematics course equivalent to Math 4 or higher prior to admission tested into ARC 35. ARC 35 is a remedial math workshop designed to refresh math skills in order to prepare students to enroll in university level math coursework. These psychology transfer students who did not complete one UC transferable math course prior to transfer are failing in the psychology major at an average rate equal to 65% (42% - 90% ≈ 14 students per year)\(^1\). These students are then discontinued from their major late in their junior or senior year, thus making it difficult to transition to a new major and graduate in four years. In the last four years, 28% (≈ 25 students) of these psychology transfer students lapsed and no longer attend UCR\(^2\).

\(^1\)Compared to only 5% of students who did complete one UC transferable math course prior to transfer.
\(^2\)Compared to only 7% of students who did complete one UC transferable math course prior to transfer.

Approvals:
Approved by the faculty of the Department of Psychology: November 10, 2015
Approved by the Executive Committee of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences: February 24, 2016
Reviewed by the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions: March 16, 2016
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: April 29, 2016