



## University Senate TRANSMITTAL FORM

<b>Senate Document #:</b>	09-10-35
<b>PCC ID #:</b>	N/A
<b>Title:</b>	Policies Concerning Academic Transcripts and Calculation of Grade Point Average
<b>Presenter:</b>	Charles Delwiche, Chair of the Senate APAS Committee
<b>Date of SEC Review:</b>	March 26, 2010
<b>Date of Senate Review:</b>	April 8, 2010
<b>Voting (highlight one):</b>	On resolutions or recommendations one by one, or In a single vote To endorse entire report
<b>Statement of Issue:</b>	The goal of this proposal is to make University of Maryland, College Park Policies Concerning Academic Transcripts and Calculation of Grade Point Average consistent with recent changes in the residency requirement.
<b>Relevant Policy # &amp; URL:</b>	III-6.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICIES CONCERNING ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND CALCULATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE as established in the Consolidated USMH & UMCP Policies and Procedures Manual <a href="http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii600a.html">http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii600a.html</a>
<b>Recommendation:</b>	The 2009-2010 APAS Committee noted that the first paragraph of the UMCP policy III-6.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICIES CONCERNING ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND CALCULATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE is inconsistent with the recently updated policy III-7.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS. To bring these two documents into conformity, the committee suggests that the first paragraph of III-6.00(A) be replaced with the following statement: "For the policy on resident credit see III-7.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS."

<p><b>Committee Work:</b></p>	<p>Over the past two years, the APAS Committee researched and revised the University’s policy on resident credit/residency requirements. The 2009-2010 APAS Committee submitted a proposal to make changes to the UMCP Policy III-7.00(A) UMCP DEGREE REQUIREMENTS in November 2009. The Senate approved this proposal on November 12, 2009, and it was approved by the President on November 19, 2009.</p> <p>In February 2010, the committee identified a redundant statement using the old language in a second policy, III-6.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICIES CONCERNING ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND CALCULATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE. This policy appears to have been created in response to the University System of Maryland Policy III-6.00 POLICY ON ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND FINANCIAL AID RECORDS, which states that “Each institution will develop policies concerning resident credit and the calculation of grade point average.” While the calculation of grade point average does not have its own separate policy, the text of the policy on resident credit can be found within III-7.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS, which was recently updated as described above. Unfortunately, this has created a situation in which there are two conflicting policies covering the same topic. Because Policy III-7.00(A) has recently been reviewed in detail, it seems safe to assume that this policy should take precedence.</p> <p>At its meeting on March 2, 2010, the APAS Committee voted unanimously to recommend removal of the first paragraph from III-6.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICIES CONCERNING ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND CALCULATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE and replacement with a reference statement to the updated policy text. While considering this recommendation, the committee consulted with representatives of the Office of Undergraduate Studies and the President’s Legal Office.</p>
<p><b>Alternatives:</b></p>	<p>The outdated paragraph could be replaced with the text of the current resident credit requirement found in III-7.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS. This would be identical in its initial effect, but in the view of the committee is less desirable because future revisions to either policy could recreate inconsistency among the policies.</p>
<p><b>Risks:</b></p>	<p>There are no associated risks.</p>
<p><b>Financial Implications:</b></p>	<p>There are no financial implications.</p>
<p><b>Further Approvals Required:</b> <i>(*Important for PCC Items)</i></p>	<p>Senate Approval, Presidential Approval</p>

**APAS Committee Report  
March 12, 2010**

**Proposed Removal of the first paragraph of the UMCP policy III-6.00(A)  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICIES CONCERNING ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS  
AND CALCULATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE**

In November 2009, the following text was approved for the University's Undergraduate Degree Requirements policy, III-7.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Residency Requirement

a. All candidates for undergraduate degrees from UMCP must take a minimum of fifteen credits in courses numbered 300 or above, including at least twelve credits in the major field.

b. Normally these 30 credits will be the final 30 credits counted toward the degree. However, credits from University-approved study abroad and internship programs, and a maximum of 6 credits that are not part of such programs, may be included in the final 30 if approved in advance by the dean of the academic unit from which the student expects to receive the degree.

In February 2010, the APAS Committee recognized the language of the old Residency Requirement listed in an additional policy, III-6.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICIES CONCERNING ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND CALCULATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE. This policy was created in response to the University System of Maryland Policy III-6.00 POLICY ON ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND FINANCIAL AID RECORDS, which states that "Each institution will develop policies concerning resident credit and the calculation of grade point average." While the calculation of grade point average does not have its own separate policy, the text of the policy on resident credit can be found within III-7.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS, which was recently changed as described above.

On March 2, 2010, The APAS Committee determined that striking the outdated paragraph and inserting a reference to the Degree Requirements policy would be the most appropriate course of action, so as to eliminate confusion and maintain consistency within the Consolidated USMH and UM Policies & Procedures Manual.

The committee unanimously supports the attached proposal. The proposed policy can be found in Appendix Two. Changes are marked in blue/bold font. Attached to this report are the following items:

- 1) Appendix One – Current University Policy
- 2) Appendix Two – Proposed Policy Changes by the 2009-2010 APAS Committee

## Appendix One – Current University Policy



### Consolidated USMH & UMCP Policies and Procedures Manual

#### III-6.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICIES CONCERNING ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND CALCULATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE

APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT 1 AUGUST 1991;  
UPDATED June 8, 2001 Effective Fall 2001

##### I. Policy

All candidates for undergraduate degrees should plan to take their final thirty credits in residence. Included in these thirty hours will be a minimum of fifteen semester hours in courses numbered 300 or above, including at least twelve semester hours required in the major field. A student who at the time of graduation will have completed thirty credit hours in residence at UMCP may, under unusual circumstances, be permitted to take a maximum of six of the final thirty credits at another institution. Written permission must be obtained in advance through the Dean's Office and the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Students in combined three year pre-professional programs must take the final thirty hours of the ninety hour program in residence at UMCP.

Credits completed with grades of A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D- and F, but not P and S, shall be used in computation of the semester and cumulative GPA with values of 4.00 (A+,A,A-), 3.00 (B+,B,B-), 2.00(C+,C,C-), 1.00 (D+,D,D-) and 0.00 respectively. A grade of XF shall be computed in the same manner as a grade of F. Marks of I, P, S, W and NGR will not be used in the computation of semester and cumulative GPA.

## Appendix Two – Proposed Policy Changes (in blue/bold font)



### Consolidated USMH & UMCP Policies and Procedures Manual

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**For the policy on resident credit see III-7.00(A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.**

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