



*GPC Item # 133*

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: 27 April 1981

TO: Jayne Alley, Chairperson, Graduate Policy Committee  
116 School of Music

FROM: Dr. Virginia Brouch, (Chairperson), Dr. Elton Scott, Dr. Stuart Baker,  
Mr. Charles Noon and Mr. Michael Mangum

TOPIC: Sub-committee on Admission Procedures for Mature Graduate Students

The Sub-committee is pleased to report with regard to the following items:

1. There is currently no specific graduate admission procedure nor requirement in respect to the needs of the mature (older) graduate student. In order to determine whether or not there should be procedures and requirements for this specific group, the Sub-committee recommends that a poll of Department chairpersons be taken to ascertain what, if any, needs are seen by these persons and, whether or not some departments already have departmental level policies in effect.

2. Several problem areas were noted by the Committee:

- 2.1. State employees who receive the 6 hour fee waiver often times require "exceptions" to be admitted as regular students in various graduate programs.
- 2.2. When materials are mailed to persons inquiring about graduate programs, no specific letter accompanies these materials advising the more mature student of other possibilities on campus such as the seminars for returning women. (Might there not also be seminars for the returning man?)
- 2.3. Much concern was expressed for finding a way to make admission easier for the returning student without in anyway lowering our general admission standards. One suggestion was that a transcript greater than 15 years in age might not be used for computing grade point average if an applicant could provide proof of competency through the work that had been done, recommendations from employers and non-credit offerings which they may have taken advantage of in some way or other to improve in whatever their professional practice has been.

3. It would be of great benefit to the Graduate Policy Committee to study this matter in greater depth either over the summer or during the next academic year. Beyond a doubt, it would be appropriate to provide such a study committee with the results of a survey of existing practices and procedures from the

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various departments on campus. A dean level survey might also prove fruitful if the various schools and colleges have general policies in this regard.

VMB:mq

cc: Dr. Elton Scott  
Dr. Stuart Baker  
Mr. Charles Noon  
Mr. Michael Mangum