Memorandum

To: Dr. Terry Wotherspoon, Chair APC (of University Council)

Copies: Dr. Bruce Eglington, Chair, GPC CGPS
Dr. Hayley Hesseln, Grad Chair, Department of AREC

From: Dr. Trever Crowe, Chair, Executive Committee, CGPS

Date: September 25, 2017

Re: Addition of Graduate Record Examination (GRE) as admission requirement

On September 25, 2017 the Executive Committee of CGPS (EC) reviewed the following information from the Graduate Programs Committee of CGPS:

On September 13, 2017, the Graduate Programs Committee (GPC) reviewed the request to include the GRE as an admission requirement for graduate programs in Agricultural and Resource Economics.

Motion: To recommend approval of the proposed language for the GRE to be added as an admission requirement to graduate programs in Agricultural and Resource Economics. "Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE." Pollak/Andrews CARRIED

The CGPS Executive Committee (EC) reviewed the information package and found as follows: this proposal arose from an identified need that more tools are often required to figure out if a potential student will be successful in a program through the submission of a GRE in addition the standardized method for figuring out averages from a wide variety of grading systems.

B. Eglington moved that the EC recommend approval of the proposed language for the GRE to be added as an admission requirement to graduate programs in Agricultural and Resource Economics. "Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE." /seconded R. Walker

In favour 9, Opposed 1, Abstain 1: CARRIED

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the EC’s motion/recommendations please contact lori.lisitza@usask.ca on behalf of the Executive Committee.
On September 13, 2017, the Graduate Programs Committee (GPC) reviewed the request to include the GRE as an admission requirement for graduate programs in Agricultural and Resource Economics.

It was noted that the academic unit was experiencing difficulties with the ability to assess international applicants qualifications based on transcripts and reference letters.

The Department of Economics had recently implemented the same requirement, and the information included in the GRE had proven to be much more valuable than the transcript information and letters of recommendation.

Members noted that a GRE requirement was quite common in many disciplines at other institutions. It was clarified that the GRE was valuable for assessing academic skills, and it was not a measure of English proficiency.

It was clarified that the institutional grading across the United States and Canada was quite consistent, making those applicants abilities easier to assess. It was also noted that graduate programming in economics programs was designed consistently across the United States and Canada.

Motion: To recommend approval of the proposed language for the GRE to be added as an admission requirement to graduate programs in Agricultural and Resource Economics. "Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE.” Pollak/Andrews CARRIED

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Clement at Kelly.clement@usask.ca or 306-966-2229.

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Memo

To: Adam Baxter-Jones, Dean, CGPS
   Kelly Clement, Programs Assistant, CGPS

From: Hayley Hesseln, Graduate Chair, AREC

Regarding: AREC Admission Requirements

Date: August 14, 2017

The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics would like to request a change to our admission requirements. The rationale is to request the results of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) to have more information by which to evaluate potential graduate candidates, particularly those who do not have degrees from Canada or the United States. The same requirements are used by the Department of Economics.

Proposed language to be added to the admission requirements:

   Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE.

Please advise if this is permissible. If you need further information, please contact either Ken Belcher, or me.

Kind regards,

[Signature]

Hayley Hesseln

cc: Ken Belcher, Dept. Chair, AREC
    Melissa Zinc, Graduate Program Assistant
Program Requirements

**Postgraduate Diploma (P.G.D.)**

Designed for students currently in the workforce who wish to upgrade their skills in the area of agricultural economics. Applicants to these programs will be individually assessed by the Graduate Coordinator.

**Admission Requirements**

- a four-year honours degree, or equivalent, from a recognized college or university in an academic discipline relevant to the proposed field of study
- a cumulative weighted average of at least a 70% (U of S grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (i.e. 60 credit units)
- Language Proficiency Requirements: Proof of English proficiency may be required for international applicants and for applicants whose first language is not English. See the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Academic Information and Policies in this Catalogue for more information
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE

**Master of Agriculture (M.Agr.)**

Designed for students currently in the workforce who wish to upgrade their skills in the area of agricultural economics.

**Admission Requirements**

- a four-year honours degree, or equivalent, from a recognized college or university in an academic discipline relevant to the proposed field of study
- a cumulative weighted average of at least a 70% (U of S grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (i.e. 60 credit units)
- Language Proficiency Requirements: Proof of English proficiency may be required for international applicants and for applicants whose first language is not English. See the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Academic Information and Policies in this Catalogue for more information
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE
**Master of Science (M.Sc.)**

Students whose undergraduate training is in an area of specialization other than agricultural economics, economics, or a relevant field, are usually required to take about one year of additional training in agricultural economics at the undergraduate level.

**Admission Requirements**

- a four-year honours degree, or equivalent, from a recognized college or university in an academic discipline relevant to the proposed field of study
- a cumulative weighted average of at least a 70% (U of S grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (i.e. 60 credit units)
- Language Proficiency Requirements: Proof of English proficiency may be required for international applicants and for applicants whose first language is not English. See the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Academic Information and Policies in this Catalogue for more information
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE
- background training including training in mathematics, statistics, economic theory, and econometrics

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)**

**Admission Requirements**

- Master's degree, or equivalent, from a recognized university in a relevant academic discipline
- a cumulative weighted average of at least a 70% (U of S grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (i.e. coursework required in Master's program)
- Language Proficiency Requirements: Proof of English proficiency may be required for international applicants and for applicants whose first language is not English. See the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Academic Information and Policies in this Catalogue for more information
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE): Submission of the GRE is recommended for all applicants. Applicants who have not earned a degree from Canada or the USA are required to submit a GRE