

ATTACHMENT 4.

REPORT OF THE SCHOLASTIC STANDARDS AND
PETITIONS COMMITTEE

I. The Committee recommends the adoption of the following policy:

All students who are transferring freshman English credits from institutions outside the University of South Carolina system must validate those credits by scoring satisfactorily on the Writing Proficiency Test. Students who do not achieve a Writing Proficiency Test score of 2 or above are required to take and complete successfully English 100, Basic Writing.

This policy will take effect for students applying to be enrolled in the University beginning in the first summer session, 1981.

For the Senate's information the policies and procedures governing Freshman English courses are as follows (p. U120, 1980 Bulletin):

Freshman Courses. To ensure that the level of composition instruction a student receives is appropriate to his actual writing ability, all students entering the University of South Carolina, Columbia, will be tested for placement in, or exemption from freshman English on the basis of a Writing Proficiency Test rather than on the basis of Scholastic Aptitude Test scores. The Writing Proficiency Test will consist of a one-hour essay on general topics designated by the English Department and will be evaluated on a scale of 1 to 4. In evaluating the essays, readers will judge the writer's sense of purpose, organization, paragraph development, sentence structure, and diction, as well as grammar and usage. Those students whose papers receive a score of 1 will be placed in English 100, a score of 2 in English 101, and a score of 3 in English 102 with three hours automatic credit for English 101. Students receiving a score of 4 will be exempted from and receive 6 hours credit for freshman English. Entering students who have not successfully completed their freshman English requirement will take the Writing Proficiency Test. The Writing Proficiency Test will be administered by Testing Services during new student summer orientation, once before registration, and twice during the drop-add period.

II. Grade of Incomplete

Currently, the University Bulletin reads:

I, incomplete, indicates satisfactory attendance and performance, but failure to complete some portion of the assigned work in a course. By arrangement with the instructor, the student will have 12 months in which to complete the work before a permanent grade is recorded. After one year a grade of I may be changed to another symbol only if it was recorded erroneously.

This policy was changed by the Faculty Senate at the October 1 meeting to read:

I, incomplete, indicates satisfactory attendance and performance, but failure to complete some portion of the assigned work on a course. By arrangement with the instructor, the student will have up to 12 months in which to complete the work before a permanent grade is recorded. The grade of "I" is computed as a grade of "F" in calculating students' Grade Point Ratios. After 12 months a grade of "I" will be permanently changed to a grade of "F".

The Committee recommends the addition of the following paragraph to this policy:

The grade of "I" is assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, in the instructor's judgment, a student is unable to complete some portion of the assigned work in a course because of an unanticipated illness, accident, work-related responsibility or family hardship. The grade of "I" is not designed to provide students additional time to complete course assignments unless there is some indication that such an unanticipated event prevented the student from completing the required course assignments on time.