ITEM 137-105-R1107  Mathematics Proficiency

THAT: The Board of Regents accept the recommendation of the Mathematics Proficiency Steering Committee to revise Policy 301.15 to align the thresholds for full admission to the MUS four-year programs with the thresholds used for placement into college-level math courses and to allow provisional admission status.

EXPLANATION: Policy 301.15, Mathematics Proficiency Admissions Standards for Four-Year Programs, adopted in 2003, did not include the concept of Provisional Admission, setting an admission threshold of 18 on ACT mathematics, which generally places students into remedial mathematics courses on both two-year and four-year campuses.

Recognizing that the current policy sends a deceptive message to high school students, the Mathematics Proficiency Steering Committee revised the policy to set a "full" admission standard at the college-ready level for the four-year programs and to allow provisional admission for students who are likely to need only one remedial math course. Provisionally-admitted students must earn a higher test score or complete the remedial mathematics course within three semesters or 32 credits after enrolling in the institution in order to be fully admitted.

The proposed policy retains other features of the current policy, such as holding that students with scores below 18 on ACT mathematics cannot be admitted to a four-year program and maintaining the rigorous core alternative.

In order to provide adequate notice to school districts, students, and parents, the effective date of the policy change is set for 2010, the year in which current sophomores graduate from high school.

ATTACHMENTS: See Supporting Materials for: Proposed Policy Distribution of ACT mathematics scores.