Faculty Senate, Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 5:00 PM
Via Zoom

Agenda

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of the October 6, 2020, minutes.

3. Announcements and Information

4. Reports
   a. Speaker of the Faculty Simon Lewis
   b. President Andrew Hsu
   c. EVP of Business Affairs John Loonan
   d. Student Health Services Director Bridget McLernon Sykes

5. New Business
   a. Curriculum Committee (Nenad Radakovic, Chair)
      1) AAST: Program change:
         https://cofc.curriculog.com/agenda:166/form
      2) GRMN: Program change, deactivating minor and courses:
         https://cofc.curriculog.com/agenda:167/form
      3) SOCY: Teacher Education BS program change
         https://cofc.curriculog.com/proposal:2798/form
      4) LING: course change:
         https://cofc.curriculog.com/proposal:2722/form
   b. Committee on Graduate Education (Prof. Sandy Slater, Chair)
      1) Creative Writing, MFA
i) ENGL 564: course description change

https://cofc.curriculog.com/proposal:2686/form

ii) ENGL 565: course description change

https://cofc.curriculog.com/proposal:2687/form

iii) ENGL 706: course description change

https://cofc.curriculog.com/proposal:2683/form

c. Committee on Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Aid (Prof. Meta Van Sickle, Chair): Proposal to add the Duolingo English Test to the College’s list of approved English proficiency tests. PDF

6. Constituents’ General Concerns

7. Adjournment
**Proposal to add Duolingo English Test to International Admission**

**September 21, 2020**

**Introduction:** This is a proposal to add Duolingo English Test (DET) to the list of approved English proficiency exams accepted by College of Charleston undergraduate and graduate international admissions. The DET is a largescale, computer adaptive online test of English language proficiency that can be delivered anywhere and at any time. The test is used by over 2,000 institutions globally to make admissions decisions at the undergraduate and/or graduate level. A total score, representing English language ability, is reported to test takers and their designated institutions. The total score includes four subscores.

**Rationale:** The mission of the DET is to lower barriers to education via access and affordability. This directly aligns with the College’s mission, and these two factors are paramount in light of COVID-19’s negative impact on international education. With decreased international mobility in conjunction with the increased competition for international enrollment, we must ensure international students have adequate virtual testing options to provide proof of English proficiency to enable them to matriculate to the College. The more accessible and affordable testing options we are able to offer international students, the greater the transformation and global impact of our campus and community. (See Article A: Comparison of College of Charleston’s current list of approved English proficiency tests.)

A majority of our peer institutions in South Carolina accept DET, in addition to institutions nation-wide with similar TOEFL/IELTS score requirements. (See Article B: CofC peer institutions’ English proficiency test comparisons.)

Members of both undergraduate and graduate international admission offices, along with the Center for International Education, have taken the DET for themselves and are satisfied with its security and integrity.

**About the test:** The DET is designed to assess the entire spectrum of English language ability from basic to very proficient by measuring reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Scores are reported out of 160 in 5-point increments. These levels correspond to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). Each test taker's proficiency is reported as an overall score on a scale from 10 –160 alongside four subscores that represent integrated modalities. These are Literacy (reading and writing), Conversation (speaking and listening), Comprehension (reading and listening), and Production (speaking and writing).

The proficiency score is calculated by a computer adaptive engine, while the entire test session is certified by a human proctor supported by Artificial Intelligence to verify the test taker’s identity and detect instances of rule breaking. The results, including video interview and writing sample, are available within 48 hours of the test session. (see Article C: DET Overview.)

**Proposal:** Add the DET to the College’s list of approved English proficiency tests at both the undergraduate and graduate level. The proposed minimum DET score is 105, which directly aligns with score comparisons to our minimum TOEFL and IELTS scores. A minimum DET score of 105 is also in alignment with our peer institutions as evident in Article B.
Article A: Comparison of College of Charleston’s current list of approved English proficiency tests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test name</th>
<th>Cost per test</th>
<th>Virtual option?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL</td>
<td>$185</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IELTS</td>
<td>$215-$250</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iTEP</td>
<td>$129</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT (Undergraduate)</td>
<td>$68 + $12 per score additional report order</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT (Undergraduate)</td>
<td>$70 + $13 per additional score report order</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed: Duolingo</td>
<td>$49</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Article B: CofC peer institutions’ English proficiency test comparisons. (hyperlink)

Article C: DET Overview
An international candidate can take the Duolingo English Test online anywhere, anytime—no traveling to a test center or appointment needed. They can take the test from any computer with an internet connection, a webcam, and microphone. The results are certified within 48 hours of test session completion, and they are immediately available to send to an unlimited number of institutions for no additional cost.

The test is divided into three sections:

1. **Introduction and onboarding ~5 minutes**
   - Orient the test taker to the test format and rules
   - Tests the computer’s camera, speakers, and microphone
   - Verifies test taker’s identity with a government issued-photo ID

2. **Computer adaptive test ~45 Minutes**
   - Evaluates reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills
   - Test item difficulty adapts based on performance

3. **Video and writing sample ~10 Minutes**
   - Test takers are shown two questions, from a pool of hundreds, and given 30 seconds to choose which to answer.
   - Video interview questions allow for 1 - 3 minutes responses and writing sample questions allow for 3 - 5 minutes responses.
   - Test takers can review their responses to the video interview and writing prompts before sharing with institutions.
   - Video and writing samples can be reviewed alongside the scores on the institutional results dashboard or within the CRM