MEMORANDUM

TO: Sheila Converse, Executive Secretary
    Faculty Senate

FROM: Becky Bitter, Registrar’s Office

FOR: Academic Affairs Committee

DATE: 25 March 2015

SUBJECT: Proposal to Revise Rule 15, Credit by Examinations

At its meeting on March 24, 2015, AAC approved the following revision to Rule 15. This revision to the rule updates the types of credits that WSU will evaluate through recognized exam-based processes. These revisions are suggested and supported by the Admissions Office and the Provost’s Office.

15. CREDIT BY EXAMINATIONS

CREDIT BY EXAMINATIONS. Subject to standards established in consultation with academic departments concerned, credit may be granted to entering or enrolled undergraduate students via various means including external examinations, institutional examinations, and approved military service schools, and prior learning assessment.

Prior learning is defined as the knowledge and skills gained through work and life experience; through military training and experience; and through formal and informal education and training from in-state and out-of-state institutions, including foreign institutions. Prior learning assessment is the process used to evaluate such experience for academic credit.

WSU does not accept credit by exam as transcripted granted by other institutions. Students must provide official score reports to WSU.

Credits by examination shall yield no grade points. Such credits may partially fulfill University Common Requirements (UCOREs) for graduation. External examinations will include but not be limited to: Advanced Placement (AP) Program examinations of the College Entrance Examinations Board; general and subject College Level Examination Program (CLEP); and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations; and Cambridge International Examinations.

Students may request to take a course at WSU for which they have been awarded AP, IB, or CLEP, or Cambridge International credit. Prompted by the request, the AP, IB, or CLEP, or Cambridge International credit is removed from the overall credits awarded by WSU. Only the subsequent enrollment in the WSU
course will contribute to the total hours earned and grade point average; the AP, IB, or CLEP, or Cambridge International credit cannot be reconsidered for credit for the same course again. Students submit the request to ask for the WSU course to be allowed and for the AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit to be omitted to the Registrar's Office.

(a) Advanced Placement (AP) Program. Credit for AP examinations will be granted in an amount equal to the lower-division 100-200 level course or courses in the particular discipline tested, as determined in consultation with approved by the specific academic department. The acceptable score for receiving credit is published online at wsu.edu/advancedcredit.

(b) College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

(1) Students with university junior standing (60 semester credits or more) are not eligible for credit through CLEP examinations. Contact the Office of Admissions for specifics. (2) General and Subject Examinations: Credit for CLEP will be granted if the examination is passed with scores established in consultation with by the academic department concerned in consultation with the Director of Admission. Credit will be granted for scores of 50 at the 50th percentile or above. Credit will be granted for the comparable Washington State University course, or elective credit may be granted. Not more than 6 semester hours of credit will be granted for each examination.

(c) Challenge Examinations. Matriculated students currently registered at Washington State University, with permission of their advisor or department chairperson and of the chairperson of the department offering the course, may take challenge examinations for university credit in courses in which they are not registered. Students may not take challenge examinations in courses which they have audited, or in which they have received a final grade. Upper-division students may not receive credit by challenge examination in lower-division courses in their major field. Undergraduate students may not receive credit by challenge examination in any course prerequisite to a course in which they are enrolled or have received a final grade. The maximum credit for challenge examinations is 30 semester hours unless permission is obtained from the student’s academic dean. Consult the Registrar’s Office for challenge exam fees. The fee for all challenge petitions is $409 per course.

(d) Military Credit. Lower-division elective credit only Credit will be granted for satisfactory completion of:

(1) Military service schools in the amount recommended by the American Council of Education in the publication, Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Forces.

(2) United States Armed Forces Institute correspondence courses (under the rules applicable to other correspondence work).
(3) DANTES Credit: Elective credit. Credit for DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) will be granted for college-level academic subjects (non-vocational/technical courses) using the minimum score and credit amount recommendations of the American Council on Education.

(e) Peace Corps and Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA). Credit for training in the Peace Corps or VISTA will be granted for having completed specific courses, under regular catalog course numbers, as shown on a regular transcript from a regionally accredited college or university.

(f) WSU Placement Examinations. Credit for other testing programs such as the Washington Pre-College Test Program and WSU departmental placement examinations will be granted in accordance with policies established by the university and academic departments.

(g) International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations. Credit is awarded for higher-level examinations with a score of 4 or higher. See wsu.edu/advancedcredit. Upon completion of the IB diploma, 30 lower-division semester credit hours are awarded, in partial fulfillment of University Common Requirements (UCOREs).

(h) Cambridge International Examinations. Credit is awarded for A-level examinations.

At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2015.