Dear College UCC Representative,

The following two changes to UI Baccalaureate Degree requirements, highlighted in yellow below, have been proposed to UCC and will be taken up again for discussion at the Dec. 5 meeting.

The committee is requesting that UCC representatives circulate and request feedback from their colleges about the proposed changes, particularly regarding what impact, if any, they might have on degree programs.

To summarize:

J-5-a brings UI into conformity with SBOE language that strikes the limit of credits that can be transferred from 2-year colleges.

J-1-b, which would increase the minimum number of upper-division credits from 36 to 40, is being proposed as a way to assure rigor and depth in the UI undergraduate degree once the 70-credit lower-division transfer credit limit is removed. UI is presently at the low end of peer and nearby universities at its 36 upper-division credit requirement.

J - General Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees

Candidates for baccalaureate degrees must fulfill the following requirements. (See the College of Graduate Studies section for the requirements for graduate degrees. See the College of Law section for the requirements for the degree of Juris Doctor.)

J-1. Credit Requirements.

J-1-a. Students must have earned a minimum of 120 credits to be granted a baccalaureate degree from the University of Idaho. Some programs require a higher minimum. For the minimum number of credits required in each degree program, see the major curricula of the various degree-granting units in the individual departmental section.

J-1-b. A minimum of 36 40 credits in upper-division courses (numbered 300 or above) is required for a baccalaureate degree.

J-2. Residency Requirements. A student must earn a minimum of 30 upper-division credits in UI courses. No credits awarded for independent study, bypassed courses, credit by examination, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or experiential learning can be counted among these 30 UI credits. Study abroad and student exchange credits may be counted toward this requirement with prior approval by the student's academic department and dean.

and

J-5. Credit Limitations. A candidate may count toward a baccalaureate degree no more than:
J-5-a. Seventy credits earned at junior or community colleges, or one-half of the total credits required for a student's intended baccalaureate degree, whichever is the higher number.

J-5-b. Forty-eight credits in any combination of credits granted for the following types of courses: credit based on test scores (for CLEP, College Board advanced-placement tests, ACT, SAT, COMPASS), credit by examination (challenge), experiential learning, independent study, technical competence, vertically-related course credit, and vocational-technical or military school courses. This 48-credit limitation may be exceeded for good cause with the approval of the Academic Petitions Committee (file petition through dean's office). Note: credits earned through any combination of external study and technical competence cannot exceed a maximum of 32 of the allowable 48 credits.

J-5-c. Twelve credits earned under the pass-fail option (see B-11).