

University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific International Secretariat

Announcement

July 24, 2013

Dear honored UMAP members and delegates,

On behalf of the University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) International Secretariat (IS), I would like to formally announce a new development in the UMAP system for credit recognition and transfer to be used for the USCO Program by all universities participating in UMAP.

The new system, which came into effect on 1 July, 2013, simplifies credit transfer between Asian higher education institutions. The details are set out in “The New UMAP Credit Transfer System (UCTS) and its Use - 2013”.

UMAP is a voluntary association of government and non-government representatives of the higher education sector in the region. Our shared goal is to achieve a better understanding of the cultural, economic, and social systems of the countries and territories in Asia and the Pacific through enhanced cooperation between institutions of higher education, and increased mobility of university students and staff.

UMAP focuses on exchange programs and in recent years there has been increased cooperation between countries and territories in Asia and the Pacific and many more cross-cultural exchanges of university students and staff. Such exchanges allow students to interact with different cultures and also give new dimensions and depth to their study. Such exchanges, however, also require a clearly articulated permeable framework to compare and evaluate the educational scope and delivery of the courses offered by participating institutions. To meet this need, UMAP developed UCTS, to provide a simple commonly accepted framework which participating universities can use to facilitate and manage greater student mobility in the region through its primary use for arranging academic credit transfers in the Asia and the Pacific region.

A new UCTS, designed by Dr. Taiji Hotta, was initially adopted by the UMAP Board on October 24, 2012. The Board officially approved the final version of the new UCTS and a new application form to be used with it at the 1st Board meeting of 2013

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in Tokyo, Japan on May 10, 2013. The new UCTS simplifies credit transfer between higher education institutions in Asia and the Pacific. All universities participating in the USCO Program will be required to use the new UCTS and the new application form from now on.

The basic feature is the following new definition of a UCTS credit unit:

One (1) UCTS credit point = 38-48 indicative student workload hours
The 38-48 student workload hours may include 13-16 teaching hours
but may not include reading time or final exam weeks.

Please see details of this new UCTS definition and the new application form in the attachment.

If you have any queries or require any assistance, please contact UMAP IS:

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Yours sincerely,



Tony W.T. Lin (Dr.)

Secretary General

International Secretariat

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