Recommendation:
Allow American Sign Language to serve as an option for students to meet the foreign language requirement at Texas A&M International University.

Rationale / Justification:
Will provide our students an additional means to satisfy the foreign language requirement that is recognized and accepted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. (See supportive documentation from the Coordinating Board and an example of the proposed catalog change).

Program: Add: _____ Change: _____ Attach new component(s) / changes. Include revised Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

Faculty: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed faculty entry.
If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: _____ Change information: _____ Attach new/changed information. If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

Approvals:

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<td>Jan. 5, 2009</td>
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Foreign Language Requirement:
Students seeking admission to Texas A&M International University must demonstrate beginning college-level proficiency in one foreign language. Beginning proficiency is defined as the equivalent of 6 college level semester credit hours (SCH). Beginning college-level proficiency may be demonstrated by:

1. completion of three years of high school study of a single foreign language with a minimum grade of 80 (3.0) at the end of the third year.
2. earning a minimum grade of "C" in 6 SCH in one foreign language.
3. CLEP, University of Wisconsin, or AP exam scores that award 6 SCH in one foreign language.
4. Completion of two foreign language courses in one language with a "C" or better from the University's International Language Institute, Division of International Programs.

Foreign language course credits may be used to fulfill the second Romance language requirement of the B.A. in Spanish or certain other lower-level general electives in other degrees. In some degree programs, however, the foreign language credits will count as additional credits above and beyond those required for the degree.

Recommended Change to Content in the 2008-2009 TAMIU On-line Catalog:

Foreign Language Requirement:
Students seeking admission to Texas A&M International University must demonstrate beginning college-level proficiency in one foreign language. Beginning proficiency is defined as the equivalent of 6 college level semester credit hours (SCH). Beginning college-level proficiency may be demonstrated by:

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3. CLEP, University of Wisconsin, or AP exam scores that award 6 SCH in one foreign language.
4. Completion of two foreign language courses in one language with a "C" or better from the University's International Language Institute, Division of International Programs.
5. Completion of two American Sign Language courses with a "C" or better.

Foreign language course credits may be used to fulfill the second Romance language requirement of the B.A. in Spanish or certain other lower-level general electives in other degrees. In some degree programs, however, the foreign language credits will count as additional credits above and beyond those required for the degree.
Information Regarding SGNL (American Sign Language)

(NOTE: According to the Texas Education Code, section 51.303(c), “American Sign Language is recognized as a language, and any state institute of higher education may offer an elective course in American Sign Language. A student is entitled to count credit received for a course in American Sign Language toward satisfaction of a foreign language requirement of the institution of higher education where it is offered.” The 1990 Classification of Instructional Programs Manual defines American Sign Language as a health science.)

SGNL 1201 Beginning American Sign Language I (1st semester ASL, 2 SCH version)
SGNL 1301 Beginning American Sign Language I (1st semester ASL, 3 SCH version)
SGNL 1401 Beginning American Sign Language I (1st semester ASL, 4 SCH version)
SGNL 1501 Beginning American Sign Language I (1st semester ASL, 5 SCH version)

Introduction to American Sign Language covering finger spelling, vocabulary, and basic sentence structure in preparing individuals to interpret oral speech for the hearing impaired.

Approval Number................................................................................................16.1603.51 13
CIP Area...............................................................Sign Language Interpretation & Translation
maximum SCH per student.........................................................................................10
maximum SCH per course.............................................................................................5
maximum contact hours per course..............................................................................112

SGNL 1202 Beginning American Sign Language II (2nd semester ASL, 2 SCH version)
SGNL 1302 Beginning American Sign Language II (2nd semester ASL, 3 SCH version)
SGNL 1402 Beginning American Sign Language II (2nd semester ASL, 4 SCH version)
SGNL 1502 Beginning American Sign Language II (2nd semester ASL, 5 SCH version)

Review and application of conversational skills in American Sign Language; interpreting from signing to voice as well as from voice to signing. Introduction to American Sign Language literature and folklore.

Approval Number................................................................................................16.1603.52 13
CIP Area.........................................................................................................................Sign Language Interpretation & Translation
maximum SCH per student.........................................................................................6
maximum SCH per course.............................................................................................3
maximum contact hours per course..............................................................................80

Source:
Lower division academic course guide manual (Revised Summer 2003). Austin, TX: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.