The rationale and further detail for each of the final voted recommendations may be found in the Credit Committee’s full report (http://provost.richmond.edu/committees/credit_report2.pdf) and in the minutes of the May 15, 2006 University Faculty Meeting (http://provost.richmond.edu/facresources/UFM_Mins_51506.pdf). At the University Faculty meeting, recommendations #9 and #11 were amended to final form shown below, and #14 was added. Numbers in parentheses reference pages in the original Credit Committee report.

1. **Decoupling of Seat Time and Academic Credit:** We recommend acceptance of the fact that seat time and academic credit have already been decoupled at Richmond as elsewhere, with the important new stipulation that courses should require an agreed-upon minimum average amount of time per week in combined inside- and outside-the-classroom activities. (p. 7)

2. **Use of Time-on-Task as a Standard:** We recommend that UR should award credit per course as a function of minimum-time-on-task. (p. 7)

3. **Change to a Unit System:** We recommend that all current courses of the 3- and 4-credit variety should be treated more or less the same – in fact, exactly the same. We recommend, in short, that UR adopt a unit system in which the typical course is designated 1 unit, similar to what is now being done by most of the top national liberal arts colleges in the *U.S. News and World Report* survey. (pp. 8-9)

4. **10-14 Hours as the Time-Standard for a Full Unit:** We recommend that the minimum time that the typical good student should need to spend on a course, if that course is sufficiently challenging and if that student is to achieve a high level of learning, should be an average of 10-14 hours per week. (p. 9)

5. **Institution of Half and Quarter Units:** We recommend that, in addition to full units, UR should recognize half-unit and quarter-unit learning experiences, with the proviso that quarter units may be earned only on a Pass/Fail basis. (p. 11)

6. **Proportionate Time-Standards for Half and Quarter Units:** We recommend that half-unit courses and other half-unit learning experiences should demand at least 5-7 hours of work per week (or at least 70 to 98 hours per semester) and that quarter-unit learning experiences should demand at least 2.5 to 3.5 hours of work per week (or at least 35 to 49 hours per semester). (p. 12)
7. **Exceptional Cases:** We recommend that science departments offering upper-level courses that demand 3 or more hours of classroom time, plus 3 or more hours of laboratory time, plus significantly more outside-class and outside-lab study than is typical in lab courses, should consider either reducing the scope and demand of these courses or repackaging them as full-unit courses that meet the 10-14 hour minimum time expectation, plus separate but related half-unit courses that meet the 5-7 hour minimum time expectation. Similarly, we recognize that intensive language courses are de facto 2 units in one, and hence should be accorded 2 units of credit. And the same sort of argument applies for the Education Department’s teaching practicum program, which should be accorded 3 units of credit, with another half unit for the related seminar. (p. 13)

8. **35 Units as the Minimum Requirement for Graduation:** We recommend that the minimum number of units that must be on a student’s transcript at the time of graduation should be 35. (p. 14)

9. **The 28 Unit Rule:** We recommend that the minimum number of units that a student must take at UR (or in an approved study abroad program while enrolled at UR) should be 28.

10. **The 3.5 Unit Rule:** We recommend that the minimum number of units that a student must take to qualify for full-time status in any given semester should be 3.5.

11. **The 5 Unit Rule:** We recommend that students should be strongly advised to take no more than 5 units per semester.

12. **The Credit Equivalent of Units:** We recommend that units be designated as equivalent to 3.5 credit hours.

13. **The Unit Equivalent of Credits:** We recommend that courses that were awarded either 3 or 4 credits by another institution, and have been accepted for transfer into UR, should be designated as equivalent to one unit.

14. **Time Spent on Course Work:** Students should be asked how many hours per week they spend for a course, on a specific course-by-course basis, and the results should not be reported until after the course has been completed.