

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY AGENDA

Meeting: Academic Standards and Admissions Committee	Key Roles
Date: Wednesday March 17, 2021	Meeting Leader: Terri Boylston
Place: virtual	Support: Laura Bell
Start Time: 2:00 p.m.	End Time: 3:00 p.m.

TOPIC	LEADER
Approval of Minutes –March 17, 2021	Approved, unanimous
• OLD BUSINESS	
1A Winter Session – updates?	<p>There was discussion with the Associate Deans regarding faculty loads. If a faculty member teaches in the winter session, they may not teach in the fall or spring. Also, they did not factor in overhead when planning for this winter session. Moving forward, the university will need to account for overhead. Next year’s winter session will be another pilot. We will be evaluating enrollment and other factors such as a drain on resources. We need to look at enrollment in a non-covid year.</p> <p>There are concerns about whether students will be able to get financial aid for the classes held during the winter term. From an accreditation standpoint, there are concerns about pre-req. checks and having courses appear in the same term.</p> <p>In the short term, we cannot make this a separate term due to the IT lift. However, there is a concern from the Provost regarding a lack of financial aid for students. The Provost has asked the Office of Student Financial Aid Director to investigate grant funding and scholarships available to students who are Pell eligible from an equity standpoint.</p> <p>We are in compliance with Financial Aid regulations as this stands now. The Financial Aid Director has concerns about winter session being a stand-alone session as this would make the university a non-standard operating university and therefore subject to different regulations. If this becomes a permanent offering, we will work out a way to document that these courses were taken in a different session. This will be noted on their transcripts.</p> <p>There were several students who signed up for courses for the winter session in error. This is something that will be addressed for future sessions. There were multiple communications sent to students, including those who registered for the winter session to monitor their bill to ensure this is correct. We will continue to discuss this and add opportunities for students to be aware. We were able to fix these errors for students after the fact.</p> <p>Students are not making appropriate financial choices when it comes to these courses. For example, advisors in Engineering were trying to encourage students to not take Library 150 in the winter session. We can work with the Office of Student Financial Aid to ask for their assistance with messaging and utilize EAB.</p> <p>We cannot perform a pre-req check as ABET requires for every Engineering courses for the spring semester. Then there is the</p>

	<p>issue for how this appears on the transcripts after the fact. The calendar approved for the next academic year and winter session makes this difficult. Workday will provide this once it is implemented. Unfortunately, this is still a manual and labor-intensive process with our current system.</p>
<p>1B. Update on ASAC approved policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop Limits [20-24] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First reading FS 3/9 – discussion to remove drop limits from Vet Med in policy • Graduation with distinction – minimum of 60 ISU credits, with at least 50 credits as graded or Satisfactory-Fail courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approved Academic Affairs Council 3/10, presented to FS EB 3/30 • Repeat Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved Academic Affairs Council 3/24, presented to FS EB 3/30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop Limits policy is still waiting on second reading. • Graduation with distinction- This policy was presented to the Executive Board yesterday. • Repeat credits- This policy was approved by the Academic Affairs Council and was in unanimously approved. There was a fair amount of discussion regarding this policy change. • 100 ideas in 100 days summer work group - There is a request to have a small work group formed to address a certificate program for students who do not have a bachelors. One of the first certificates that could be pushed forward could be cybersecurity. This will be something to have ready for approval first thing in the fall. This was discussed in the curriculum committee as a concept and would be great to have a faculty committee. We are going to have to tap the adult learner market. If you are interested, please let Terri, Shawn or Jennifer know. Under the current policy, if a student wants to enter the university for the purpose of getting an undergrad certificate, they will have to be pursuing a bachelors or already have a bachelors. This would require a change to the policy. This would be an opportunity for students with Associates degrees to further their education and possible career advancement.
<p>1C. Academic Renewal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be eligible ‘Students must not have graduated from Iowa State University’ • Question – are students eligible in they transferred to another university, earned a degree and want to return to ISU? • https://catalog.iastate.edu/registration/#reinstatementrenewaltext • Possible Policy change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students that have graduated with a bachelor’s degree from another college or university are eligible for academic renewal, but cannot remove semesters in which courses were used to meet degree requirements (not electives) for the degree received. ○ Academic renewal will be granted at the beginning of the semester the student will graduate from ISU. Students must have demonstrated satisfactory academic performance as evidenced by earning a GPA of at least 2.00 for all credits taken after returning to the university, 	<p>Currently, if a student has a degree from ISU they cannot go through academic renewal. If the student has a 4-year degree from another institution they can come back to ISU and go through academic renewal.</p> <p>The other issue was students can come back to ISU to go through academic renewal to improve their GPA to increase their chances of being accepted at another college.</p> <p>Proposals discussed were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the credits went towards granting their degree at another institution, then they would not be eligible for academic renewal. • The other was to delay when academic renewal would be granted. We could push this back as far as the semester they are graduating to ensure they are seeking their degree from ISU. <p>We need to be careful in using the term “remove the semester”. The semester is still there, it is used in GPA calculation. If we move this back there is no point, the student needs to understand which courses they need to take.</p> <p>From a logistical perspective, we do not retain the degree audit for the final audit for graduation. We have moved this retention to one year. We could have a difficult time determining whether another institution used these courses to confer a degree. It would be</p>

<p>with a minimum of 12.0 credit hours required.</p>	<p>difficult to check with other universities to see if they used ISU courses.</p> <p>The belief is that the intent of the policy is for former ISU students to come back and earn their first undergrad degree from ISU. If a student completes a degree at another university and comes back, even if they transfer a number of course into ISU, they still have to complete 32 credits at ISU.</p> <p>This is like giving a student several repeat credits. This is just about how we are calculating the student's GPA. The record still shows all the courses and grades for the student; however, the GPA is changed when the student goes through academic renewal.</p> <p>Motion: Approving the academic renewal policy as stated, keeping the only limitation that the student has not graduated from ISU. Selby, moved, seconded, Townsend.</p> <p>Vote: Unanimous approval</p>
<p>1D. Posthumous degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UGRD – Deceased Students – total hours and Cum GPA spreadsheet • https://catalog.iastate.edu/academics/#graduationtext • Possible Policy change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If a deceased student was within 18 credits of graduation or had completed at least 32 credits at ISU and has at least a 2.00 GPA, the degree can be awarded posthumously. 	<p>Jennifer shared an excel file showing the number of students who have deceased in the past couple terms who have do not have a posthumous degree and have not earned a degree. The data is sorted from least to most credits.</p> <p>The committee needs information regarding how many credits these students are from graduation. Without running an audit for each student, we cannot make this determination. When Jennfier receives a death notification an audit is run, and the graduation evaluators look to determine how many credits the student is from graduation. This information is shared with the college.</p> <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suggestion would be to double the policy from 18 credits from graduation to 32 credits from graduation. • Another suggestion was to change this to the student having completed at least 32 credits. • Changing this to not have a credit limit. It could be potentially harmful to a grieving family to not award a posthumous degree to a student. This could be damaging to the staff members who have to share this denial with the family. It is the compassionate thing to provide for the family to assist in their grieving process. • We can include information about students in good standing or leave it at the maximum flexibility. Currently, it comes from the Dean as a recommendation and goes to the Provost for approval based on the policy. The student is either eligible for the Posthumous degree or a certificate of attendance. <p>There was a student who was killed on her way to take her finals. Her family was very interested to learn how she was doing academically, and the students faculty members shared letters with the family about her progress. This student would have had zero credits.</p>

The families who Jennifer has worked with are very grateful for this communication with the university and having this posthumous degree awarded to their child.

This does not cost the university anything and it gives the University and opportunity to assist the family in the grieving process.

From a defensible standpoint, a student would have to have at least 32 credits at ISU and a 2.0 gpa.

Putting it on the family to know that there is a posthumous degree policy is too much for the family at the time of their loss. We can add language to the policy that a university representative can reach out to the family regarding the possibility of their student receiving a posthumous degree.

In past discussions, we have talked about situations of a student being an active shooter. What would be our standpoint if a student were to be an active shooter and they did not take another student's life but did take their own, we may need to think about the university's standpoint in these situations. It will be up to the Deans and the Provost as to whether the student is approved for a posthumous degree.

The university will try to contact the family pending conversations with the Dean, Provost, etc.

At what point do we consider a student to be an Iowa State student and be eligible? Are they eligible at the point of admission, the first day of classes, etc.?

We would need to make clear that our intent is to grant a posthumous degree to students at the point of admission. It is still in the policy that the Dean and Provost must approve the posthumous degree.

EB may not pass such a new liberal policy. Our current policy is consistent with the other institutions who Jennifer received responses from in her request from the AAU listserv.

If the student passed away and the university was negligent, do we want a staff member to reach out to the family as the family is considering suing the university that the university is considering giving the student a posthumous degree. If it is a matter of policy for this outreach it could not be stated that this is being done to moderate the outcome of a potential lawsuit. This seems to be a policy that should be consistent across the regent institutions. This should be something that should be brought to the Board of Regents for guidance. This policy is not in the catalog and Jennifer has asked that it be added.

UNI, the student must be within 75% of degree completion unless the dean recommends a certificate is awarded.

The posthumous degree does not have to do with academic performance it has to do with certifying the person was part of the

	<p>community. This is a way for us to show how we support and honor our community members. We graduate students who do not perform well academically. With the university's emphasis on well-being there is a migration toward caring more for the student's well being and not solely for their academic performance.</p> <p>Terri will wordsmith a potential policy. If you have ideas for her to include in the draft of this new proposal, please share them with her.</p>
NEW BUSINESS	
2A. Undergraduate Certificate – for students with AA degree	
2B. Policies to discuss Spring 2021	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top 2% Recognition (https://catalog.iastate.edu/academiclife/gradingsystem/#honorsrecognitiontext) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand-alone credits for dual majors and major-minor combinations https://catalog.iastate.edu/academics/#degreeplanningtext <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ivy College of Business – at least 15 credits of coursework in each major that is not used in other majors for students pursuing multiple majors https://catalog.iastate.edu/collegeofbusiness/#text 	
2C. Policies to discuss Fall 2021	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer Deficiencies https://catalog.iastate.edu/admissions/#transfercreditstext 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midterm Grade Reporting vs Early Alert 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor signatures – drops/adds 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress/Probation/Warning and Reinstatement Policies 	
2D. Policy/Issue Prioritization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 100 Ideas in 100 Days discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the policy that allows Academic Standards Committee in each college to set higher GPA and other requirements for re-admitting students (following dismissal) – consistency across colleges - table to 2021-2022 – to be addressed by Probation Communications work group (SB) • Review and revise the Progress/Probation/Warning Policy 	

– differences for students with > 75 credits – The entire policy needs reviewing – table to 2021-2022 – to be addressed by Probation Communications work group (SB)

- Maximum credit limit per term (18 cr – undergrad) – while exceptions are allowed, this could be an obstacle for some high-achieving students and may impact time to degree – also should there be different limits for students on probation/warning or reinstated? (<https://catalog.iastate.edu/registration/#limitsholdstext>)
- Review policy for transfer deficiencies
- Other Policies
 - Academic Integrity – online courses/exams
 - Academic Renewal
 - To be eligible ‘Students must not have graduated from Iowa State University’
 - Question – are students eligible in they transferred to another university, earned a degree and want to return to ISU?
<https://catalog.iastate.edu/registration/#reinstatementrenewaltxt>
 - Posthumous degree
 - Academic misconduct – sanction for students dropping courses who have been accused of academic misconduct
(https://catalog.iastate.edu/academic_conduct/#academicdishonestytext)

FUTURE MEETINGS

Meetings on Wednesdays at 2:00-3:00 PM
April 14
April 28