

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY MINUTES

Meeting: Academic Standards and Admissions Committee	Key Roles
Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020	Meeting Leader: Terri Boylston
Place: virtual	Support: Laura Bell
Start Time: 1:10 p.m.	End Time: 2:00 p.m.

TOPIC	LEADER
OLD BUSINESS	
Approval of Minutes –April 23, 2020	
<p>1A. Update of Approved Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period 2 Drops • Award of Automatic Scholarships for Home School Students • Minimum GPA for International Transfer Applicants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period 2 Drops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approved, with the updates including the adviser and instructor signatures for drops during period 2. Language was included clarifying the signatures are not for permission but signify a conversation took place with the student. • Award of Automatic Scholarships for Home School Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Passed with the amendment that if the student had enough classes to have a GPA for admission purposes, we would also use this GPA for scholarships. • Minimum GPA for International Transfer Applicants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Passed, approved for the next round of students who will be applying for admission.
<p>1B. Graduation with Distinction – BSN Program</p> <p>Candidates for the bachelor of science in nursing degree may graduate with distinction as outline above providing that they (a) have earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or higher at ISU at the beginning of their final term, (b) have completed 32 semester credits of coursework at ISU at the time of graduation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a student drops below 3.5 GPA in their last semester, does the student still graduate with distinction? • Should the ‘Graduation with Distinction’ and ‘Cum laude’ policies both be in place? Is there overlap or is cum laude, magna cum laude and summa cum laude under the ‘Graduation with Distinction’ umbrella? Does this recognition appear on the diploma and transcript? • Are there other 32 credit programs that could be impacted by this decision? • Registrar’s website: https://www.registrar.iastate.edu/students/deans-list 	<p>The BSN program is a 3-semester program. Most of these students are working part time or full time while completing coursework. This is for students who have their RN and do not have a BS. A student in the BSN program asked about the possibility of being able to graduate with distinction.</p> <p>Currently, the policy states students need to have 60 graded credits to graduate with distinction. The exception to this is for students in the BLS program who need to have 45 graded credits.</p> <p>The catalog can be updated to make the requirements for graduating with distinction clearer.</p> <p>The U of I also has a 32 credit, BSN program similar to ISU’s. Students in the U of I BSN program can graduate with distinction after completing 32 graded credits.</p> <p>ISU policy is to base a student’s graduation with distinction on their GPA at the end of the semester going into their final term. The policy is to not consider a student’s final semester in determining whether a student graduates cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude.</p> <p>If a student does well in their final semester, we will shift the student up to the higher distinction. If the student does not perform well in the last semester, they will not be dropped down in distinction levels. This will be something we will address in the Fall.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catalog: https://catalog.iastate.edu/academics/#scholasticrecognitiontext 	<p>Changing the policy to not base the student’s final GPA would mean students would not be recognized in the catalog as graduating with distinction or able to walk in the ceremony wearing distinction cords. For the program and cords we can base this decision on the student’s GPA going into their final semester. Their final distinction will be added to the student’s diploma after final grades are submitted.</p> <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the policy regarding the eligibility of BSN students to graduate with distinction. Review the policy/procedures for all students graduating with distinction. Including whether students will be moved up or down in distinction based on their final semester grades. Jennifer will ask the degree audit team to see if there are other programs like the BSN and BLS programs that have less than 60 graded credit hours for distinction. Jennifer will look into how U of I determines a student’s eligibility for graduation with distinction and if they include the final semester. Jennifer will share U of I’s policy with the committee to be taken to the Faculty Senate in the Fall. <p>This will need to be addressed by Faculty Senate.</p>
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NEW BUSINESS

<p>2A. 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? <p>https://catalog.iastate.edu/registration/#reinstatementrenewaltext</p>	
<p>2B. Policy/Issue Tracking Document</p>	
<p>2C. Policy/Issue Prioritization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated repeats – change from credit count to class count, limit number of times a course can be repeated? https://catalog.iastate.edu/academiclife/gradingsystem/#gradepolicies) Approvals for exceeding full time course load https://catalog.iastate.edu/registration/#limitsholdstext) Denying the same major-minor combination Posthumous degree Academic misconduct – sanction for students dropping courses who have been accused of academic misconduct https://catalog.iastate.edu/academicconduct/#academicdishonestytext) 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drop limit – change from class count to credit count, should there be a drop limit? (https://catalog.iastate.edu/registration/#limitsholdstext) 	
<p>2D. Updates on end of Spring 2020 semester</p>	<p>The Pass/Not Pass system is ready to go thanks to the Registrar and IT teams.</p> <p>Ann Marie sent guidelines for virtual instruction to the department chairs.</p> <p>There is a team looking at what fall instruction will look like. The Facilities team has been measuring classrooms to determine the number of students per room allowing for 6ft of social distancing. Another concern is if we start in the fall and there is another outbreak as some point during the semester.</p> <p>There are questions about the delivery fees for online courses. The fees appear to range across courses and departments.</p> <p>There is a need to look at the variability of support provided for online courses and departments. There could be differences among instructors regarding how much assistance they seek from these resources.</p> <p>There are concerns about the inability to lock down exams. This means instructors must rewrite exams each semester. Did the Academic Standards Committee discuss the impact of moving courses online and the impact on the integrity of courses due to these concerns? There was a notation placed on the student’s record regarding this semester’s changes. Additionally, there are concerns about the student’s environment, for example do they have internet access and live in an environment conducive to their learning. There are concerns about verifying a student’s identity as well. There is not a mechanism for verifying whether the student is the person taking the exams rather than someone else.</p> <p>The online courses being taught in the fall would most likely not be traditional online courses. The students would be physically here, instructors may not be able to meet with them in person as they have in the past. There would be a possibility of utilizing the testing center.</p> <p>There are persistent calls to go to a standard curve for all classes. This does not address the issue of whether the student is taking the test. This issue may be something to address in the fall.</p> <p>What are the standards and what is being affected as we move to online courses? This is about control of the academic content.</p> <p>Issues to address in the Fall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic integrity with online courses. Standard curve for all classes

<p>2E. ACT/SAT Scores and Admissions</p>	<p>The college board had to cancel its national testing dates. ACT still has their June testing dates. It is evident these sites will not be open in June. Students will not have the opportunity to take the ACT or SAT until far later than usual. We cannot afford to delay the admissions cycle due to this issue.</p> <p>Admissions has been authorized by the college board to admit students starting with the June 15 cycle, based on a wholistic review of their academic record. We will be admitting a lot of students who appear to have very low RAI scores due to them not having ACT or SAT scores. The reason for the low RAI scores is ACT and SAT scores are included. When testing becomes available in the fall, we will expect students to have these test scores.</p> <p>Without having the ACT/SAT scores, are working closely with the Enrollment Research Team to help us identity data that will predict a student’s success at the university. In some circumstances, we may have to ask students to wait until we receive their test scores. We have an incredibly efficient admission process and we start our admit cycle far earlier than other schools.</p> <p>The U of I is pushing a proposal that each of the regent institutions be able to offer the ACT on their campus. These scores would then be shared only with the 3 regent institutions. There will be opportunities for students in Iowa to take the test at one of the three Regent facilities as well.</p> <p>We do not anticipate withdrawing a student’s admission if their GPA and high school preparation indicates they will be success, if later they come in with a lower ACT/SAT score.</p>
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FUTURE MEETINGS

Have a great summer!