

FDAR Council Annual Report Academic Year 2011-2012

April 23, 2012

FDAR Council 2011-12

Chair, Ann Smiley-Oyen, HS

Andrew Manu, AGR; Dan Zhu, BUS; April Eisman, DES; Nicola Bowler, ENG; Loreto Prieto, LAS; Linda Thompson, VET; Heimur Geirsson, Recognition & Development Committee; Kristen Constant, Women and Minorities Committee; Dawn Bratsch-Prince, Provost Office; Steve Freeman, Faculty Senate President

The FDAR Council met six times this year. One task we undertook was correcting and updating Section 6.5 in the Faculty Handbook. These changes were approved by the Faculty Senate prior to our March meeting. We also briefly discussed a meeting that Smiley-Oyen and Bratsch-Prince had with Darin Wohlgemuth regarding a tuition scholarship for faculty dependents. It became evident from this discussion that a major part of our rationale for this scholarship could be strongly countered, and given the lack of support from the President's office, we dropped further discussion on that matter at this time.

A primary task we began this year was to determine how to effectively help our students understand the extent of faculty responsibilities and why the research in which we engage provides "value-added" experience in the classroom. We discussed how we graduate thousands of students each year, and many of them leave thinking that our work is primarily teaching. This leads to an ongoing misunderstanding by the public. Our intention is to present and distribute examples of slides and other ideas to the Faculty Senate, with the goal of encouraging faculty senators to take this message back to their respective departments, adapt the slides and ideas for their discipline and curriculum, and begin to do a better job of graduating more informed students.

Respectfully submitted by,



Ann L. Smiley-Oyen
FDAR Council Chair
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GOVERNANCE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2011-12

The Governance Council of the Faculty Senate has three committees that report to it including, the Committee on Senate Documents, the Committee on Committees, and the College and Departmental Document Review (CDDR) Committee. The Governance Documents committee began the year under new leadership from Martha Selby and the considered several document changes for the Faculty Handbook throughout the year. The Committee on Committees' responsibility was the appointment suggestions to fill the Senate's committees and liaison positions, and also made arrangements for the spring conference. This committee was chaired by Ann Marie Van Der Zanden and later by Suzanne Hendrich after Van Der Zanden was appointed Director for the Center of Excellence in Learning and Teaching. Additionally, the Governance Council had the responsibility of conducting the Senate's elections for filling completed or open terms, and other items of governance for the Senate.

The major topics of action for the Governance Council for the 2011-12 academic year were the following – note that these are only topical items (see the Council Minutes on the Faculty Senate website for more details and the attached reports of the committees): Several significant Faculty Handbook modifications were developed from Governance Council actions and include the following:

- Changes to section 2.3 - The Administrative Structure to reflect the current administrative structure in place at Iowa State University.
- Changes to section 2.6 - Changing the language on the faculty governance documents.
- Removal of Chapter 11 from the Faculty Handbook. This chapter dealt with tracking changes made to the Faculty Handbook and had not be used in sometime especially since we have moved to electronic forms of the Faculty Handbook.
- Changes to section 3.1 - Two changes in this area occurred. The first involved minor wording modifications to this section on Appointment Policies. The second set of changes in this area reflects changes in B-base appointments to bring the Faculty Handbook in line with University effort reporting.
- Changes to section 7.2 - Two major changes in this area were needed to bring the University and the Faculty Handbook language in line with current federal regulations on Conflict of Interest and Research Misconduct.
- Changes to section 6.5 - Changes in the Award section of the Faculty Handbook were designed to bring the language up to date with the current awards process.

The Council should be commended for the extra hard work in dealing with the many issues brought before this committee annually. Many of the issues can seem relatively innocuous while others can be much more complex.

The CDDR Committee has again made substantial progress in reviewing governance documents from numerous Colleges and Departments at Iowa State University. This

committee is its fourth year of operation. The committee has been chaired by Tom Loynachan. Dr. Loynachan and the rest of the CDDR committee should be recognized for their tireless efforts need when critically reviewing and providing revision recommendations to the governance documents from numerous Colleges and Departments from across the University that were reviewed this academic year.

Changes to the faculty handbook continue to occur. An updated version of the faculty handbook was made available in during the Spring semester 2012. Martha Selby began her new role as chair of the Senate Documents Committee.

The Governance Council oversaw another successful election of senators and of committee chairs and appointments to the Athletic Council. Overall, the Governance Council had a very busy and productive year, as can be seen by the list of accomplishments and activities listed above. More details on the items listed above can be viewed in the Council's minutes which are posted on the Senate Website.

The report is respectfully submitted by:

Ken Stalder, Chair of Governance Council, (College of Ag At-Large).

Members of the Council are:

Craig Anderson (At-Large Psychology)

Monica Bruning (Education Leadership and Policy Studies),

John Cunnally (Design)

Pol Herrmann (Business),

Jesse Hostetter (College of Veterinary Medicine),

R. Chris Williams (Engineering),

Steve Freeman (Faculty Senate President),

Mike Owen (Past President)

Ann Marie Van Der Zanden (President Elect, Resigned to become Director for the
Center for Excellence on Learning and Teaching)

Suzanne Hendrich (President Elect and Chair, Committee on Committees after Van Der
Zanden resigned)

Tom Loynachan (Chair of the College and Departmental Documents Review
committee),

Martha Selby (Chair, Senate Documents Committee)

Jack Girton (Ex-Officio – AAUP)

Dawn Bratsch-Prince (Ex-Officio - EVPP)

Interoffice Memo

Date: April 17, 2012

To: Faculty Senate
103 Lab of Mechanics

From: Peter Reilly
2031 Sweeney Hall

Subject: Annual report of the Honorary Degrees Committee

The Honorary Degrees Committee issued its annual call for honorary degree nominations under my name on September 13, 2011. No nominations appeared by the deadline of January 18, 2012. A nomination was finally received on April 10. I have sent it by e-mail to the committee for its review, and I expect to receive the members' comments within the next week. If they are affirmative, I will ask for time to present the nomination to the Faculty Senate Executive Board for its approval.

Three nominations had previously been approved by the Executive Board. Benjamin Allen, President of the University of Northern Iowa and former ISU Provost, received his honorary degree at the December 2011 Undergraduate Commencement. I understand that George Belitsos, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Youth and Shelter Services, Inc., will receive his honorary degree at the May 2012 Undergraduate Commencement. The third nominee, Daniel Gianola, Sewall Wright Professor of Animal Breeding and Genetics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, has evidently been notified by the President's Office that he will receive an honorary degree at a future commencement.

University presidents have different philosophies about the number of honorary degrees that they wish to be awarded at commencements and whether commencement addresses will be presented by honorary degree recipients or by others. I have not yet discussed President Leath's preferences with him.

Recognition and Development Committee

Annual report, 2011-2012

April 17, 2012

The Recognition and Development Committee met a total of four times during the academic year. The committee reviewed two applications for the Big Twelve Faculty Fellowship Program, recommending that both applicants be awarded a fellowship. Eight nominations for the Regent's Excellence Award were reviewed by the committee and five nominations were recommended to be awarded. The committee received a total of 94 foreign travel grant applications and was able to fund 45 of those applications.

A major responsibility of the committee is to review, rank, and select foreign travel grant applications for funding. This year the Faculty Senate contributed \$27,840 to the fund, and the Provost Office contributed \$15,000, for a total of \$42,840. For the past several years the President's Office has not contributed to the fund and that has significantly affected the program. For comparison, during 2007-2008, when the program also received the support of the President's Office, the committee was able to fund 72 out of 102 received applications.

The foreign travel grants represent a major part of ISU's international outreach program. These resources ease the burden of faculty traveling the globe as invited experts delivering keynote addresses, top researchers contributing their results with the world and our brightest scholars sharing their gifts. What is gained by the individual faculty member is extremely valuable for their professional development. These foreign travel experiences are the catalyst for opening future opportunities for collaborations in joint research efforts and potential agreements between institutions. Iowa State University receives from this investment the type of recognition worthy of our research institution.

It is important to maintain this funding and preferably increase the level of support for the foreign travel grant program.

Submitted by

Heimir Geirsson
Chair, Recognition and Development Committee
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In November:

1. Jonathan Compton distributed (followed with an electronic copy after the meeting and also attached here) and explained a table titled "Five Year Review of Academic Standards." In almost all cases where there was a statistically significant difference, retention rates have improved in recent years.
2. Phil Caffrey distributed (electronic copy attached) and explained a handout showing average RAI scores for those students below the cutoff value of 245 and how their retention rates compared to those making the cutoff score. Two year retention rates for the entering class of 2009 were about 80% for those above the cutoff RAI score and about 60% for those below it.

In December:

1. **Change in Repeat Policy for P/NP grades:** In the current policy, students are not allowed to retake a course for a grade if they took it as P/NP and received a P grade. This becomes a problem especially for students that took a course P/NP, change majors, and now need to take it for a letter grade for the requirements of their new major. We gave unanimous approval to allow students to retake a course for a grade after receiving a P grade in the course. Designated repeat policy will be applied for these courses, the same as other courses.
2. **Resolution of Non-Report grades:** Doering presented the current procedure for handling non report grades for undergraduate students. After 12 months, the dean's office of the respective course is advised of non-reports that are still lingering on a student's record, and that they will be removed from the student's record if not resolved. If removed, a memo is placed on the student's permanent record. The same is done for a student at graduation, if a non-report still exists.

Doering proposes that NR grades should be handled similarly to I grades so that they would convert to an F after 12 months. A consensus was reached that after a year the Registrar's office shall provide each Dean's office (in the college in which the course resides) with a list of outstanding NR's in their college, and ask for a disposition. The options will be to convert to an F, or for an extension be granted to allow for potential resolution.

Doering will rewrite the policy so it can be voted on at the next meeting. Committee members are to talk to their respective Dean's offices for input.

3. **Drop Limit for Students Returning for another Degree at ISU:** Currently, students entering from high school are allowed 5 drops during their undergraduate career. If their entering status is other than direct from high school they are allowed 4 drops. However, if they are enrolling at ISU as undergraduates after receiving an undergraduate degree, they are permitted only 2 drops. A motion passed unanimously to allow students who are returning to ISU as an undergraduate student after receiving an ISU degree be allowed 4 drops.

4. **Rounding and Truncating of GPA Calculations:** Doering presented an issue of inconsistency for graduation requirements for students who have a GPA that is greater than 1.99444 and less than 2.00. This is especially the case for graduation requirements, which states that students must attain a 2.00 GPA. An issue arises, because the DARS reports truncate the GPA to 2 decimal places, while the transcript rounds to two decimal places. Furthermore, some decisions are made based on a GPA that is rounded (i.e. probation decisions). For those students who are ready to graduate, but have a GPA in this range, the decision is made by the respective college. Based on information collected, the colleges are not consistent on how this is handled, and one college is not even consistent on how they handle it within their college.

The committee came to a tentative consensus that there should be a consistent method of calculating GPA's for all purposes and across the University. A potential concern was raised that this issue may have consequences on accreditation, if a student with a GPA below the stated value was to be granted graduation. The committee noted that this is an incredibly small margin that is being dealt with. Contingent on the issues regarding accreditation, the committee was leaning towards using the rounded value for the basis of all decisions.

Committee members were to check with their respective colleges for any concerns of changing this procedure. Doering was to investigate other instances where GPA's are calculated and used for decisions, to see if there were others that were based on a truncated GPA. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

5. **Special GPA Requirements:** Peters brought to the attention of committee members, especially the newer members, of the need to be vigilant about special GPA requirements being placed in the Catalog without approval of this committee. It was noted that sometimes the requirements are placed in the Catalog by curriculum committee actions, without the understanding that they need our committee's approval.

In March

1. The process on non-reported grades as re-written was approved. It is the process described in December's notes.
2. Rounding vs. truncating of GPA was discussed. The Business College was the lone obstacle in switching to rounding. Business feels it is an accreditation issue. Some additional information was sought and Laura Doering provided that in a follow-up e-mail included below.
3. The academic renewal policy was discussed. There have been only 3 waiver cases in the last few years. The issue is that we require students to take 24 credits after being academically renewed, which allows them to erase a semester's work. However, with a waiver this 24 credit rule isn't applied. This is ordinarily done for students who have only one semester to complete their degree. Why have a 24 credit rule if it gets waived? It doesn't seem that asking at least one full semester of work after reinstatement and erasing a semester's work is too much, but is 24 credits too much. This was tabled while we seek information about academic renewals at ISU and policies at the other two Regents schools in Iowa.

More information found after the last meeting of ASAC

On rounding vs. truncating GPA:

Good afternoon all,

I'm writing to follow-up on a question posed at the ASAC meeting on Tuesday, March 20 regarding the rounding of the GPA for the purposes of graduation approval.

As previously mentioned, the GPA is rounded two decimal places on the Iowa State University transcript, but not on the degree audit. Should the faculty approve rounding the GPA two decimal places for the purpose of determining if graduation requirements are satisfied, the Office of the Registrar can program the degree audit system can to round to two decimal places. This change would align the degree audit GPA with the permanent record GPA as well as the GPA used for determining academic standing, dean's list, and graduation with distinction.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Laura

Laura Doering
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On Academic Renewal:

While we are on the subject, here is what I found about the number of credits taken after reinstatement and prior to graduation. Most of them return with a relatively sizable chunk of credits yet to complete.

Jonathan

**Number of Credits taken after Academic
Renewal**

Academic Renewal Year	0 - 15	16 - 30	31 - 45	46 - 60	61 - 75	75 - 90	91 +	Not Graduated/ Still Enrolled	Total Renewals
1999-2000		2					3	7	12
2000-2001			1	2	2	4	3	8	20
2001-2002		1	1	4	2	3	4	9	24
2002-2003	1	1	2	2	2	2	5	10	25
2003-2004		1	3	2	3	4	4	11	28
2004-2005		1	1	3	4	1	2	6	18
2005-2006		1		3	3	2	2	10	21
2006-2007		2		2	1	4	5	11	25
2007-2008		1	4	3	3	6	6	15	38
2008-2009		2	2	3	2	3	1	14	27
2009-2010	1	3	2	3	3			31	43
2010-2011	1	1	3					30	35
2011-2012								21	21
Total	3	16	19	27	25	29	35	183	337

Academic Standards and Admission Committee members:

At this March 20th meeting I agreed to check on the policies at the two other regent institutions related to academic renewal.

- 1) University of Northern Iowa does not have a corresponding policy.
- 2) University of Iowa has a policy similar to ours – for academic forgiveness. They have generally agreed upon policy leaving specifics to each academic college. I've attached the ReStart policy from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (their largest college) as a reference point. No specific requirement on number of credits that must be completed within this college.

Karen