AGENDA

Approve minutes (attached)
FSCC report
ASAC report

Old business--review/discuss priorities for action this year Suggestions include:

1. Faculty Handbook 10.4.3 (http://www.provost.iastate.edu/faculty/handbook/current/section10.html#section-10.4.3) “encourages”, but does not require, instructors to give make-ups to students who miss classes due to travel for official reasons. The handbook says: “Ultimately, however, it is up to each instructor to decide whether absences will or will not be excused for participation in these activities.”

Students that miss class due to representing ISU should be granted automatic make-ups for the classes missed. Currently, instructors have no obligation to grant make-ups to students that are away in an official capacity for ISU. This seems remarkably unfair and discourages students from partaking in valuable opportunities, such as case competitions. Perhaps we can propose the following:

“Students that miss a class, test or are away from campus because they are representing Iowa State University at a function that is officially recognized by the university shall be given the opportunity to make up any assignments or tests from that day or days. Examples would include ISU sponsored music groups away for concerts, students competing in academic competitions and athletes participating in competitions. The student and the instructor should work out a plan for the work to be made up and the student must provide documentation of their need for a make-up.”

2. When students add or drop a class, they need to personally obtain signatures of instructors of record. This is extremely bureaucratic and I do not know what purpose it serves. The class lists are automatically updated on Access Plus and WebCT (if you are properly set up) and the instructors can easily figure out if a student is enrolled or not. Moreover, if students want to drop a class, instructors probably don't stop them. Perhaps it makes sense to seek permission for enrolling in a class past the first week of the semester.

3. I would like to think that we can make the approval process for academic curriculum items more efficient by reducing the steps needed for approval. At a minimum, I would propose that the AAC submit the proposals from FS Curriculum committee directly to the EB.

4. We know that debate about public access of "Faculty teaching ratings" emerges from time to time. With impending digitization of the rating instrument, it will be easy to post it on a website. I think we should prepare a position statement on this issue. I am not advocating a position in favor or against it. Perhaps we should obtain legal advise and take input from faculty but let's be prepared.

Other items?

New business