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

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<th>Academic Renewal Year</th>
<th>0 - 15</th>
<th>16 - 30</th>
<th>31 - 45</th>
<th>46 - 60</th>
<th>61 - 75</th>
<th>75 - 90</th>
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Academic Standards and Admission Committee members:

At this March 20\textsuperscript{th} 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. Thye 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