

## AARFF Meeting

February 1, 2019

Attended:	JoAnn Hertz	Kris Clarkson
Corey Zink	Alan Frantz	Nicole Joseph
Jacque Baergen	James Martin	Deb Green
Jody Finnegan	Phillip Pleasant	Joann Trimmer
Todd Johnson	Weston Whitworth	Ali Crane
Karen Fullmer		

### **Old Business- agenda item added**

JoAnn and Jody, as co-chairs, would like to include an **Old Business** section on the agenda. Old Business will include unaddressed agenda items as well as follow up topics from discussions.

Prior to meetings, co-chairs will contact individuals connected to the Old Business topics to determine when they can present on the topic.

### Old Business

Lisa Lewis - Spriden and ISU ID interchangeability

Weston Whitworth and Cody Finch to discuss Finance Holds

Randy Gaines - Chatbots and Texting (Randy will check with Stuart Sommers to determine if a university wide texting service is part of his plans for the coming year.

Laura McKenzie - Residency Updates

Lewis Eakins – Parking Passes for guests

JoAnn Hertz - Use UR ISU email campaign

JoAnn Hertz has invited Jacque Baergen to attend AARFF meetings as the representative for the ISU campus professional advisors.

### Academic Renewal – Alan Frantz

Alan stated this may be a topic for the Academic Standards Committee and addressed his concerns regarding some of the wording in the existing Academic Renewal Policy located in the ISU undergraduate catalog, located at:

<http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/academicinformation/creditandgradingpolicies/>

## **Academic Renewal Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to allow undergraduate students who are returning or transferring to Idaho State University after having been away from college for a number of years a chance for a fresh start. Idaho State University has a petition process for one-time-only use in which the student may request that consecutive terms of course work be disregarded in calculating the GPA for graduation. To apply, a student must file an Academic Renewal petition with the dean of his/her college. Eligibility for the program will be subject to the following conditions:

1. A minimum of three (3) years will have elapsed since last enrollment at an institution of higher education before petition may be filed.
2. Applicants must have a previous cumulative ISU GPA of less than 2.00.
3. This policy will not be used for individual courses.
4. The petition to be filed by the student will specify consecutive terms of undergraduate courses on the transcript to be disregarded.
5. Academic renewal may be awarded one time only.
6. Academic renewal shall not apply to any credits earned for a completed, prior academic degree.
7. Before the petition may be filed, the student must have completed a semester or semesters of an additional 12 credit hours of course work at Idaho State University with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 or at least 24 credit hours of course work with a minimum grade point average of 2.00.
8. Upon approval of the petition, the student's permanent official academic record will be suitably annotated to indicate that no work taken during the disregarded term(s) may apply toward the computation of credits and grade points, academic standing, and graduation requirements. However, all work will remain on the records, ensuring an accurate academic history.
9. Students should be aware that this policy **MIGHT NOT BE ACCEPTED** at transfer institutions. Academic Renewal granted elsewhere is not transferable to Idaho State University. Idaho State University conditions must be met.

Alan discussed and questioned number 7 (above). Must the 12 credits be graded with A- F or can a course that is offered Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) be included in the 12 credits and 2.5 GPA.

There was discussion that the most common course a student will encounter will be Math 0090, as other remedial Math and English coursework will no longer be offered beginning fall 2019. While there are other S/U graded courses, they are uncommon, but will they be allowed here.

There was also discussion concerning whether or not the policy should be opened up to students in Good Academic Standing. JoAnn Hertz stated the policy was developed to offer an incentive to the lower achieving students. Discussion on this topic expanded to other items: 1). The effect of course retakes (grade replacement and inclusion/exclusion in student semester GPA) 2). That academic standing cannot be changed for past semesters (except for last term adjustments) 3). That a transfer course can be used to meet a requirement at ISU, but if the transfer course is a repeat of a previously taken ISU course, it will not replace the grade, credit, or impact the GPA. These decisions were made prior to Banner implementation and could be revisited; Laura McKenzie may be able to give more information. Joann Trimmer noted that terms used to denote academic standing have changed over time, including our most recent changes.

Use of transfer GPA was discussed, Jody and Deb stated that not recognizing transfer GPA leads to a great deal of person-hours calculating GPA for scholarships. Corey stated COT does a similar calculation, as do most competitive departments, such as Dental Hygiene. The group would like to find out more about whether or not transfer GPA could be implemented in Banner – Jody and Deb will write up a rationale to support transfer GPA and share findings with the group. Ali, Jacque, and Corey will also

provide support with examples specific to their areas. An additional topic, transfer dual-enrollment from other institutions not affecting SAP as it does with ISU dual-enrollment students, was discussed.

Alan and JoAnn will draft a revised Academic Renewal policy (to include transfer work within the 3 years, to include any level of Academic Standing and remove GPA limit of 2.0, and to include S/U courses as achievement coursework, revise section 7 to 12 credits at a 2.5 gpa) for AARFF to review. AARFF may forward to Academic Standards for review.

#### Readmission Petition -

James Martin requested that the Readmission Petition Instruction page be updated to: "All prior ISU fees must be paid before submitting this petition."

#### Department Updates

Financial Aid has received approximately 7,000 2019-2020 FAFSA's, Jody stated that of those, 3,126 emails were sent on 1/31/2019 to let the student know their FAFSA was complete but that they hadn't officially be admitted to ISU. This is due to the efforts by High Schools to get their students ready for college by encouraging them to complete FAFSA and Apply Idaho. This report has been sent to Admissions. Jody stated that additional emails were sent out requesting additional verification. Financial Aid is now allowed to use a signed copy of tax returns rather than an IRS transcript. James also stated that students will be receiving physical letters requesting required documents; this is an expensive option as students are not reading their email.

Weston Whitworth stated that emails will be sent to approximately 800 students informing them that a financial hold will be placed on their account due to past due account balances.

Deb Green stated that as of November, her office has awarded \$13.7 million dollars in 4-year scholarships. The scholarship deadline is February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for new incoming freshman and transfer students.

Next AARFF Meeting March 15, 2019 9:00-10:00 Portneuf Room in SUB

Meeting adjourned 10:30 am