

Idaho State University
Academic Standards Council
Minutes

August 29, 2007

3:00 PM

English Dept. Conference Room, Liberal Arts Building, Room 262

I. Preliminaries

- A. Attendance: Adkison, Frantz, Hertz, Livingston-Friedley, Johnson, Mickelsen, Norman (Acting Chair), Rankin, Selvage, Steiner, Trimmer, Wabrek
Absent: Slack
Non-voting: Wallace (Recording Secretary)

B. Introductions of Council members

Reminder: still need representatives from the College of Business, Faculty Senate, ASISU. Those reps will likely be appointed soon.

C. Council Purview and Philosophy

Norman reviewed the purpose and mission of the Academic Standards Council. He emphasized the importance of the Council's work and reminded the members that they are often asked to consider decreasing, not increasing, academic standards. Keep this in mind as the Council does its work; remember that everything is petitionable and balance individual situations against overall policy when making decisions. Bear in mind that academic policy has important implications for enrollment, recruitment and retention.

II. Unofficial Minutes from last ASC meeting, April 25, 2007

- A. Although there was no quorum last time and no official business was conducted, it was decided by the Chairs of the Faculty Senate (Masserini) and the ASC Council (Norman) to approve the unofficial Minutes as a part of the official record of the Council.

ACTION: Moved by Adkison and seconded by Livingston Friedley to approve the Minutes. **Passed unanimously.**

III. Announcements

A. Council Governance Structure

The Academic Standards Council (ASC) reports to the Faculty Senate. Anything the ASC approves is passed on to the Senate, who then votes whether to approve it or not. If the Senate approves it, the item is then passed on to Dr. Wharton (the Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs) who then decides whether or not to accept the Council's advisory recommendation.

There is a Faculty Senate Advisory Council which consists of the Chairs of all the Councils, the members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and key members of the University Administration (i.e., the President and Vice-Presidents). The

Advisory Council serves as an informational tool to facilitate communication between Faculty and Administration.

Tracking forms were implemented last year to help follow the progress of Council recommendations or items of business as they move through the various stages of approval.

B. Year-End ASC Activities Report for 2006-2007

Norman put this report together after the last ASC meeting. The Faculty Senate has already reviewed and approved it, so unless there are any major changes needed, it has been provided to the Council members to serve as a brief summary of what was done last year.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Elect new Chair of Academic Standards Council

Diana Livingston Friedley has expressed an interest in the position.

ACTION: Motion by Adkison and seconded by Wabrek to elect Livingston Friedley as Chair of the Academic Standards Council. **Passed unanimously.**

Norman expressed his pleasure at serving as Council Chair, then ceded the Chairship and remainder of the meeting to Livingston Friedley.

V. New Business

A. Appoint Chairs of Scholastic Appeals Board and Academic Dishonesty Board for 2007-08.

Rankin volunteered to serve as Chair of the Academic Dishonesty Board.

Selvage agreed to serve as Chair of the Scholastic Appeals Board if chosen.

ACTION: Norman moved to appoint Rankin as Chair of the Academic Dishonesty Board and to appoint Selvage to the Scholastic Appeals Board. Seconded by Wabrek. **Passed unanimously.**

B. Board membership and vacancies

Livingston Friedley called for Council members to recruit and nominate faculty members to serve on the Boards.

C. Revisit Academic Dishonesty Policy

Livingston Friedley pointed out that the academic dishonesty issue appears several times in the Year-End Activity Report, but it is unclear exactly what the problem is and what needs to be done. Norman admitted he couldn't remember what the issue was specifically, but it was brought up by the former Executive Council (now known as the Advisory Council). Lee Krehbiel had recommended a centralized location for all academic dishonesty records. This idea was brought before the Faculty Senate. Norman suggested the Council keep this in mind when considering implications for an Academic Dishonesty Policy. Adkison outlined the process and said it is an issue because the Handbooks describe an escalation in procedural handling for repeat offenders. Norman doesn't see any actual policy implications for Academic Standards. Livingston Friedley agrees it is a non-issue and there is no further new business to conduct during this meeting.

D. Pre-College Enrollment Program (aka Concurrent Enrollment Program)

The dual-enrollment program for high school students was discussed during the recent Faculty Senate meeting. Norman related there was some concern amongst Senators that there hadn't been enough faculty involvement in the program. If those concerns become more solid, the Academic Standards Council would be the appropriate body to address the issue.

E. Adjournment – 3:27 PM

The next meeting is will be at 3:00 PM on September 26th, hopefully in the Rendezvous Center Room 301, unless there are no charges for the Council to address by then.

Tickets are still available for faculty members to pick up in the Faculty Senate offices for the Inaugural Gala Performance at 8:00 PM on Thursday, September 13th.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Wallace
Faculty Senate Administrative Assistant I

Approved by Academic Standards Council: October 31, 2007

Approved by Faculty Senate: March 3, 3008