

Official Minutes

ACADEMIC STANDARDS COUNCIL

Friday, September 18, 2020 2:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Tim Leishman, Laura McKenzie, Ruiling Guo, Jeff Meldrum, John Fitzpatrick, Anushka Burde, Tiffany Elsberry, Curtis Whitaker, Joanne Tokle

Excused: Mike Foley, Corey Zink

Recording Secretary: Ann Medinger

1) Status of Minutes for August 21, 2020 -

2) Discussion items: Continue discussing NWCCU

Previous discussion

- a) NWCCU Standards: Forwarded by Dr. Tokle
 - i) NWCCU standards were recently revised and the limit on credit for prior experiential learning was removed. However, we have been advised that institutions should have their own policies in place instead. This is an issue that seems appropriate for the Academic Standards Council
 - ii) Attached is a summary and explanation of credit for prior experiential learning. ISU may wish to update its policy now that NWCCU has removed the relevant standard. Attached to the email is soon-to-be approved SBOE policy on prior learning. ISU's current policy and procedures are here: <https://www.isu.edu/academicaffairs/-prior-learning-assessment/>
- b) Joanne Tokle discussed the status of this policy
 - i) Shows up in catalogue under "Alternative Credit Opportunities."
- c) The ask
 - i) Does ASC want to make any changes to the current policy?
 - (1) Fitzpatrick suggested rewording to section, "Application of Credits."
 - (a) Third bullet line...credit by PLA can be used to meet the graduation requirement for upper division credit."
 - (b) Strike the phrase, "for 36."
 - (2) Fitzpatrick- add a line to policy
 - (a) PLA credits from other state institutions will just go through
 - (b) McKenzie- does not need to be put in the catalogue
 - (3) McKenzie
 - (a) There are two courses that asses students' experiential learning
 - (b) Should these courses fall under this policy
 - (c) Tokle-

- (i) This issue has already been addressed and is being taken care of.
- (4) Fitzpatrick will bring up if there are any other departments that use this and want to change any language- with his college- and bring the info to the next meeting.
 - (a) Fitzpatrick gave feedback on his findings
 - (i) No issues within the college.
 - (ii) Not concerned with a max. number of credits
 - (b) Leishman said college of Technology is not limiting number of credits
 - (i) Letting the departments cap the number of credits
 - (ii) McKenzie expressed concerns with lack of caps if students switch programs
 - 1. The state recommendation is only that we have a policy but does not have a stance on number of credits
 - (c) Discussion regarding this issue ensued
 - (i) McKenzie went through some of the websites that are creating a blurry line for standards in this area
 - 1. Study.com
 - 2. Straighterline.com
 - (ii) Togle shared the SBOE standards regarding credit for experiential credit.
 - (iii) McKenzie suggested the policy state, “X number of credits must be taken outside of transfer and/or experiential credit”
 - (iv) Fitzpatrick suggested we could maintain current wording without going against restrictions given by Northwest Commission
 - (v) There are concerns as to how a PLA credit cap would affect the College of Technology and the College of Nursing
 - 1. There is a situation in which a student can petition the Provost’s Office for a degree without a certain class or to add an extra PLA credit
 - (vi) Fitzpatrick suggested keeping the credit limits as is so as not to open a Pandora’s box of problems
 - (vii) Leishman will take this discussion to his constituents in the College of Technology to get a feel for their stance on it.
- (5) Add, “if awarded” to policy where it says, “credit by PLA is considered resident credit.”
- (6) McKenzie will create a google doc for committee to look at and review for further discussion.
- (7) Discussion will continue at the October Meeting.

- 3) Continue discussing need for unique content requirement for 2 degrees
 - a) McKenzie will bring cases to compare and discuss to October meeting.
 - i) Looking for language that clarifies when a student receives two degrees and when they receive one degree with a double major.

Previous Discussion

- b) Issue just came up yesterday
 - i) Earning a second Bachelors Degree and how that is transcribed.
 - ii) McKenzie explained the issue.
 - (1) The issue lies with the lack of unique content between the two Bachelors Degrees
 - (a) IE: A Bachelors in Management with a minor in Marketing and there is only one unique credit between the two degrees.

- (2) Do we need to create policy to address this issue and require more unique content between the degrees?

Adjournment

Fitzpatrick motioned to adjourn

Burde seconded

Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.