

Academic Standards Council

Official Minutes for Friday, 20 October 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

HyFlex meeting: Administration Building room AA 102, ZOOM

In Attendance: Curtis Whitaker, Susan Belliston, Carrie Bottenberg, Tim Leishman, Robin Lindbeck

Absent: Jen Adams, Alex Rose

By ZOOM: None

Ex Officio: Hala Abou Arraj, Jesse Call-Feit, Janna Graham, Aaron Todd

Guests: Jasun Carr, Debra Ronneburg

Administrative Assistant: Lisa Hunt

1. Technical Certificates

Debra Ronneburg, Associate Dean in the College of Technology, discussed her College's preferred policy on technical certificates. ASC reviewed and discussed SBOE memo on microcredentials:

- a) SBOE policy is that a specialized certificate can be no more than 60 credits
- b) Must be an add-on to a technical credential
- c) Technical and Academic Certificate is a "Specialized Certificate"
- d) SBOE's SkillStack system will track and maintain microcredentials and digital badging for Technical Competency Credits

Following the recommendations of Debra Ronneburg in the College of Technology and Gabriel Rodriguez in the Albion Center, ASC is not adding copy on microcredentials at this time. Institutional practice across the state is still in flux regarding these credentials, and new policy from ISU on them may cause unintended harm. ASC may wish to supply guidelines on microcredentials for the catalog at a later date.

ACTION - Susan Belliston motioned to approve copy for academic certificates from September meeting and technical certificates from current meeting for catalog

Carrie Bottenberg seconded

Motion carried unanimously

2. Credits and Grades for Transfer Courses

Hala Abou Arraj, University Registrar, provided background to suggested new catalog copy on transfer credits that students bring to ISU from other institutions. ASC reviewed and discussed new paragraphs Hala added to existing policy.

Discussed accepting transfer credits for exams and tests

Students transferring from any regional accredited institution with an Associate of Science, Associate of Arts, or Associate of Arts and Science (but not Associate of Applied Science) will have satisfied all ISU Gen Ed requirements.

Transferred lower-division credits do not count as upper-division credits.

ACTION – Robin Lindbeck moved to accept new language of Transfer Course Policy
Tim Leishman seconded
Motion carried unanimously

3. Retroactive Credits

Jasun Carr, Chair of the Department of Global Studies and Languages and the Department of Sociology, presented a proposal for a retroactive credit system for language courses at ISU.

ASC discussed whether such credits would count toward Gen Ed goals and what the charge for them would be.

This proposal will only apply to language programs. Carr argued that placing heritage students in this way gives them a reason to enroll in the correct class and still get the credits needed.

Previously the Idaho SBOE said no to this kind of plan, but College of Southern Idaho had this coursework plan approved over the summer of 2023.

Span 2221 – Spanish for Heritage Speakers (CSI) – involves writing, language and culture. These skills add to students' already sound oral skills. The course will count toward Goal 9 and must have instructor permission to enroll.

ASC considered potential problems of setting a precedent in this case of retroactive credits that could have implications for other programs.

Adjournment: 3:26p