

Academic Standards Council

Official Minutes for Friday, 21 March 2025, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

HyFlex meeting: Administration Building Room A 102, ZOOM

In Attendance: Curt Whitaker, Kendra Murray

By ZOOM: Tim Leishman, Robin Lindbeck, Alex Rose

Absent: Jen Adams, Lisa Salazar

Ex Officio: Hala Abou Arraj, Stephanie Foreman, Janna Graham, Aaron Todd

Recording Secretary: Lisa Hunt

1. Update on policy ISUPP 4000 Academic Integrity and Dishonesty

A new version of ISUPP 4000 was approved by Faculty Senate on March 10, 2025 and is now under thirty-day review. ASC reviewed changes to the policy that are planned to go into effect later this semester.

2. Update on Scholastic Appeals and Dismissals Policy

ASC voted in February to make the changes to the Scholastic Appeals Policy we discussed at the January meeting; these changes were then approved by Faculty Senate on March 10, 2025 with one addition regarding appeals that involve a chair of a department as the instructor of note. Faculty Senate specified that when this exception arises, the case will automatically be handled by the Dean of that college.

3. Update on AI Platforms at ISU

Curt Whitaker updated the ASC on recent discussions with Academic Affairs regarding the possibility of generative AI being provided on University platforms. Academic Affairs has purchased a few subscriptions on a trial basis to some of the most useful platforms for a few faculty to test. These platforms include ChatGPT, Perplexity, Winston AI, Grammarly, GPTZero and CopyLeaks. The purpose of the trials is for faculty to become aware of tools that are now available to students as they use AI to write their papers and other assignments.

4. Update on ASC Offices

ASC will select new officers at the April ASC meeting. Also, ASC has three seats that will need to be elected/re-elected for the 2025-2026 term. If current council members are interested in the Chair/Vice Chair positions, please speak with Curt Whitaker to volunteer.

5. Freshman Admissions and SAT Requirement

ASC reviewed the [current ISU policy](#) regarding the SAT exam requirement for freshman admission. Beginning in fall of 2025 the SAT will be required once again after being suspended

in the fall of 2021 due to Covid restrictions. ASC reviewed the choices facing the University as this suspension period comes to an end. A primary concern is that institutions that require the SAT may become less competitive in enrolling students.

ASC thus voted to lengthen the suspension period for another year, changing the suspension ending date in the catalog from 2025 to 2026. Curt Whitaker reported that in the upcoming year, Adam Bradford, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, plans to consult with the provosts of other universities in Idaho for feedback on whether to add the SAT as an admissions requirement again. Ideally, all three universities in Idaho—ISU, Boise State, and the University of Idaho—can agree on the same policy so that one institution is not put at a disadvantage in relation to the others on this question. Many universities in the U.S. have begun requiring the SAT again in the past year, but opinion about it remains divided.

Nicole Joseph, the Director of Admissions and Recruitment, and Debbie Green, the Director of Scholarships are in favor of suspending the SAT requirement for one additional year, until the provosts come to a consensus of whether or not to add it back. It was pointed out that the State of Idaho pays for high school students to take the SATs, so it is not a financial hardship. There is also a question of how ISU uses the SAT scores. The College of Tech uses them for math placement but they also accept the ACT or the ALEX score.

ACTION – Alex Rose motioned to suspend the SAT requirement for university admission for one additional year. ASC thus recommends that the ISU catalog copy read, “Submission of official ACT and/or SAT scores is not required for admission to ISU through the summer semester of 2026.”

Robin Lindbeck seconded

Motion carried with 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained

Adjourned – 2:46p