Materials linked from the January 12, 2011 Academic Advising Council agenda.

December 9, 2010
Leslie Burns, Faculty Senate President

On December 8, 2010 the Academic Advising Council voted on the suggested revision to the Degrees with Distinction policy. The following is a brief summary:

Degrees with Distinction:
“Grade point averages are computed on the basis of all work attempted at OSU. Graduates who have been in attendance at OSU for at least two years taken or accepted by OSU for academic credit, and are awarded degrees with distinction as follows:"

The vote passed unanimously that AAC membership expressed concern regarding the suggested revisions to the Degree with Distinction policy based on the following:

- The possibility that transfer work may not be articulated on the OSU academic history when Degree with Distinction is calculated.
- This change would recognize a Collegiate Degree with Distinction rather than an OSU Degree with Distinction.
- OSU GPA is currently not calculated in the manner described. Thus a 3rd GPA would be calculated. (OSU Institution, Transfer, Distinction)
- This change may increase repeated courses both at OSU and at their transfer institution and may be inconsistent with the current grade repeat policy.
- Combining OSU and transfer work in setting Degree with Distinction is inconsistent with other institutional grade calculations such as the determination of academic standing and retention. This could increase confusion by students as to what GPA is critical to their academic standing and how that is calculated.

AAC does recommend the following change: A student must have a minimum of 90 credits completed at OSU in order to be considered for a Degree of Distinction.

Gene Newburgh, Head Advisor & Director of Student Services for the College of Education, volunteered to represent the AAC at the Faculty Senate meeting when this issue will be discussed so she can express and elaborate our concerns in person.

There was dialogue on AR 20 but the issue was laid on the table. The discussion will resume at our meeting on January 12, 2011 at which point our vote and discussion will be forwarded on to you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebekah Lancelin, AAC Chair 2010-2011
Academic Advisor, University Honors College

cc: Vicki Nunnemaker