

DARS Steering Committee Minutes

9-21-11

1) Minutes: minutes from the 7-27-11 meeting on the web [are approved.](http://www.public.iastate.edu/~registar/dars/minutes/daarsminutes.html)
www.public.iastate.edu/~registar/dars/minutes/daarsminutes.html

2) Introductions: Karen Terpstra plus any others who are new.
We had 20 in attendance.

3) IT update:

- Upgrade to u.achieve 4.0 (Java).

u.achieve 4.0 update is high on priority list but not a big start yet.

This is a conversion of the STUINS file from COBOL to JAVA

There are additional features for Deanna/Karen such as a search function for condition codes.

It will support interactive audits and is more dynamic than our current version

It will not change the look or feel of DARS.

Exception processes will remain the same.

It will allow audits to be printed in html or pdf format.

- Screens have now been updated by Helen in IT to allow both students (*AccessPlus*) and staff (DR, ADIN) to update graduation terms needed due to new expiration dates for 2005, 2007, & 2009 catalogs due to change from two year to one year catalog. Great news!

From earlier email:

The following in the **expiration schedule** for the coming catalog:

2005-07 catalog expires at the end of summer **2012**

2007-09 catalog expires at the end of summer **2014**

2009-11 catalog expires at the end of summer **2016**

2011-12 catalog expires at the end of summer 2017

2012-13 catalog expires at the end of summer 2018...

4) Alternate Identity form: LAS is first to submit and begin using this new feature.
Feedback from Colleges:

LAS staff has noticed that transfer courses submitted are falling into humanities.

AG has sent forms to their advisors.

Admissions staff is about half done updating Iowa community colleges – updates are done based on community colleges catalog availability and Admissions staff time allows.

5) Adviser access to graduating seniors list: All advisers should have access to e-report *lists* of their advisees now. This is listed as [STDNT-DegAudt Curr Cmnccemt List](#).

Note Correction: All advisers should have access in the future. There is a small population that does now. The list will get updated every time we run a batch.

6) Split credits symbols: Those of you who see split credits on the audits are currently seeing the >S (split symbol) on both the split pieces of the audit and

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on the whole piece, if used. This was **not** removed as planned due to the symbol being used in exception of split credits.

- 7) Loading of the 2012-13 catalog will begin soon. If there is interest in having Karen and me come to a staff meeting of the department contacts to gain input on how their audits are working, ideas for improvements, etc, please let me know and we will be available. We will be visiting with LAS staff October 6th.

2011 catalog – open ended everything. We are not waiting for approval to release programs. This allows for a more seamless transition to the new catalog. It is the responsibility of the departments to let us know about changes. New courses are being added and date ranges added to dropped courses. AG commented that this worked well for them with the last catalog.

- 8) **Four year plans:** Is there interest in adding this to the audit? Or making a separate audit titled Four year plan? See example attached. Is there another way students get this information currently? Would an audit like the example be of any value to students/advisers/etc?

It was agreed that it is more important to have the four year plans in the catalog and not a separate audit. The DARS program is not tied to Soar in 4. All colleges handle Soar in 4 differently so this is not really a tool for that program.

- 9) College reports:

AG:

BUS:

DSGN:

ENGR:

H SCI:

LAS: From Sarah: Can I add to the agenda when we foresee a University degree audit change form? As you know LAS has one in place, but I don't want to keep making changes to it if we are getting close to a University form.

The paperless advising task force is the committee where a form like the one requested would come from. Tom Polito is the head of this group and no immediate action is expected on this project. Therefore, LAS should continue to edit their own form.

ATH:

Additional items:

Interactive audits – put resources to other use

Wish list from colleges:

- 1) Audits for students who applied and the decided not to attend ISU at that time but returned later are showing incorrect header information (pulled from the info file) until the 10th day file update. This makes more work for college staff. Deanna asked for examples of this situation to be sent to her. Specials are usually a large part of this population and have some unique issues. Dennis

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from IT reported that there is a process in place but it does not catch all these students.

- 2) Double majors as a part of the "What-if" audits
- 3) University online DARS change form – would like it to be self-populating, remain with the student if they change majors and/or colleges. Would really like this in AccessPlus.

LAS shared part of their process, which addresses many of the issues discussed. They have established an email account just for audit changes. The account is accessible by many people and has internal filing. This makes access and search for a specific exception easy.

Looking ahead:

Dennis will provide an update on the "Forms Routing System" in AccessPlus. John Twitchell from IT is working on this.

No November meeting. We will be meeting once a semester now unless issues come up that need discussion and/or resolution.

Next meeting will be in February.

February 22, 2012 @10:00 location 311 ESC

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