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Scholastic minutes 11/07/2011

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee 2011-2012, Meeting #8

The Scholastic Committee met at 10:30 on Monday, November 7, in Imholte 217.

Present: E Christensen, M Donovan, S Gross, H Ladner, P Ng, M Page (chair), D Stewart, A Wolf, P Wyckoff

1. Approval of the Minutes of October 31 – tabled until data is available

2. Report from the chair . **Changes to the meeting have been made since this announcement.**

- The committee will meet on November ~~21~~ **14** and on December 5
- The committee will not meet on November ~~14~~ **21** and November 28 except in emergency.

3. Academic Integrity Procedures

- The committee changed the name of the position that will be filled by an individual appointed by along with the faculty and student members of the subcommittee in the fall: ~~Committee on Academic Integrity Student Liaison~~ **Liaison to the Committee on Academic Integrity (Liaison)**. Final endorsement of the changes is scheduled for the November 14 meeting.
- Generate a list of persons to fill the position in 2011-2012, service normally begins fall semester:
 - Jon Anderson
 - Nic McPhee
 - Jeff Ratliff-Crain
 - Jimmy SchryverOther names can be submitted to Michelle Page via email to pagem@umn.edu.

4. Students readmitted after probation

The Coordinator of Advising asked for direction concerning readmitted students who left on probation. Currently, the only requirement for students readmitted after probation is to meet with an advisor before registering and to not go above 16 credits. Advising would like guidance about how to handle these students who have often been away for at least a year, often change majors, are not required to submit additional information about their academic goals/strengths/weaknesses/activities.

1. What guidance can we give to the Advising Office to facilitate student success when they are back? How should Advising choose/assign advisors? Who else should they refer students to? What information should be provided to advisors (if the Advising Office even has this info)?
2. Should students who leave UMM on probation and apply for readmission follow the same process as students applying for readmission after suspension? Pros and cons?

[The chair offered to send a document to the committee the following week that provided background and history of the probation policy and current practice. For historical purposes, the document is appended to these minutes.]

How a student gets on probation:

“A student will be placed on probation (and will remain on probation) if either the term or the cumulative GPA is below 2.000. A student on probation will have a hold placed on his or her record and must see an adviser in order to register.” At UMM a credit limit of 12-16 credits is also placed on the record.

Students on probation return to good standing by earning a term GPA and cumulative GPA of 2.00

Policy states that colleges MAY create academic contracts for students on probation.

How a student gets suspended:

1. “A student is suspended if
 1. at the end of the probation term (semester), both the term and the cumulative GPA are below 2.000, or
 2. the conditions of an academic contract are not fulfilled. The suspension is effective immediately.
2. Consequences of suspension. When suspended, a student is no longer in the program and cannot register for any University courses for at least one full academic year. All colleges and campuses at the University must recognize the probationary holds and will not allow students, including non-degree seeking students, with these holds to register without the approval of the college placing the hold.
3. Appealing suspension decisions. Students may appeal suspension decisions or petition for re-admission in writing to the college's Student Scholastic Standing Committee (SSSC) according to a defined collegiate petition process.
4. Re-admission after suspension. Re-admission after a period of suspension is not automatic. To be re-admitted, a student must show evidence of changes in circumstances that demonstrate that he or she will succeed in an academic program.
5. Returning to the college or a different college after suspension. Upon return to the college after petitioning to reenter, students will be placed on probation, and all colleges will use a probation hold and contract for the purpose of monitoring the student's performance. If the student does not successfully complete the contract, he or she will be suspended again, but then will be required to reapply for admission to a college, rather than petition to reenter.”

When does a student have to be readmitted to the university?

A student is “inactive” after not being enrolled for two or more semesters without a leave of absence agreement. A student who is away from UMM for more than two semesters must apply to be readmitted to UMM. Admission is not automatic for any “inactive” student.

Students who have been suspended must apply for readmission to UMM. Readmission after suspension is decided by the Student Standing Scholastic Committee (SSSC). Often the SSSC will require information in addition to what is in the admissions forms to decide upon readmission. The goal of the SSSC is to admit students who have a chance to be successful and graduate and to ensure that students are aware of and have access to the needed resource to reach this goal. Therefore (and in accordance to policy parts 4 and 5) students readmitted after suspension always have a contract and stay on probation until they return to good standing. Students may not register until they accept the contract.

Currently, students who have been away from UMM for more than two semesters apply for readmission. The Admissions Office handles these cases. There is no difference in process for students who left UMM in good standing and those who left UMM while on probation. AFTER readmission, students who were on probation at UMM return to probation status which includes the need to consult with an advisor prior to registering for classes and a 12-16 credit range limit.

Process for readmission after probation:

Student applies through Admissions Office. If admitted, student stays on probation with its requirements (such as meeting with an advisor prior to registration).

Process for readmission after suspension:

Student applies for admission through Admissions Office. Admissions Office transfers these applications to the Student Standing Scholastic Committee (SSSC). SSSC will often ask for additional information (fulfilling the portion of the policy: "To be re-admitted, a student must show evidence of changes in circumstances that demonstrate that he or she will succeed in an academic program.") SSSC examines student record and new information obtained, considers what will be needed for the student to be successful (i.e., to graduate), and makes an admission decision. If the decision is to admit the student, a contract is created with conditions that the student must meet in order to continue studying at UMM. If contract conditions are not met, the suspension is reinstated.

Questions for Scholastic Committee:

3. Currently, the only requirement for students readmitted after probation is to meet with an advisor before registering and to not go above 16 credits. Advising would like guidance about how to handle these students who have often been away for at least a year, often change majors, are not required to submit additional information about their academic goals/strengths/weaknesses/activities. What guidance can we give to the Advising Office to facilitate student success when they are back? How should Advising choose/assign advisors? Who else should they refer students to? What information should be provided to advisors (if the Advising Office even has this info)?
4. Should students who leave UMM on probation and apply for readmission follow the same process as students applying for readmission after suspension? Pros and cons?

Submitted by Dorothy De Jager