

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

Scholastic Committee

Campus Governance

10-16-2013

Scholastic minutes 10/16/2013

Scholastic Committee

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/schol_com

Recommended Citation

Scholastic Committee, "Scholastic minutes 10/16/2013" (2013). *Scholastic Committee*. 48.
https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/schol_com/48

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Campus Governance at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Scholastic Committee by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact skulann@morris.umn.edu.

**Scholastic Committee
2013-14 Academic Year
October 16, 2013
Meeting Six Agenda Approved**

Present: Jennifer Goodnough, chair, Brenda Boever, Chad Braegelmann, Jennifer Herrmann, Peter Wyckoff, Steve Gross, Roland Goyotte, Judy Korn, Hilda Ladner, Saesun Kim, Jess Larson, Clare Dingley, Marcy Prince, Laddie Arnold

Absent: Nic McPhee

Introductions

Scholastic Committee (SC) members introduced themselves to new student member Laddie Arnold.

1. October 9 minutes approved

2. Chair's Report

The Chair and Herrmann will meet later today with Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Sandra Olson Loy regarding the SC's recommendations for the Leave of Absence policy and procedures.

The Chair will also meet later today with Olson Loy about the academic integrity ideas generated by SC during academic year 2012-13 including the pros and cons of providing translated letters for students' whose first language is not English. Olson Loy has stated that the general counsel should be consulted.

The Chair serves as a representative to the University Senate Student Academic Integrity Committee (SAIC), which is piloting a program modeled after restorative justice for behavioral sanctions, community action, special programs, etc. If the student completes the prescribed sanction or action, the first violation will be removed from the disciplinary file. The Twin Cities campus requires all students who speak English as a second language (ESL) to meet with a person in that office after a first violation.

The question was asked as to how the Morris campus defines ESL students. Other comments include the "legalistic" nature of academic integrity communication and the option of informal translation for a student, if needed.

3. SCEP Report

McPhee sent his report via email to the Chair who shared his remarks. SCEP priorities are:

- Revision of the student-rating-of-teaching form;
- Encouraging student-release buy-in by faculty;
- Stimulating program-level discussions of grades in context; and
- Discussion of the Faculty Senate discussion of interdisciplinary teaching.

4. Academic Integrity Committee subcommittee membership finalized

A motion was entered, seconded, and approved for the following people to serve on the SC's subcommittee for Academic Integrity: Zach Kroells, 2012-13 SC member who served on Academic Integrity Committee last year; Jordan Wentz, alternate; Arnold; Prince alternate; Wyckoff; Kim, alternate; Gross; and Goodnough, convener and SAIC representative.

Director of Rodney Briggs Library LeAnn Dean has agreed to serve in the Academic Integrity Committee liaison role. Library representation offers understanding of integrity issues, continuity, and neutrality for the process. Dean Finzel will be made aware of the choice of the liaison before it is finalized. The Dean also serves as the appeal entity.

5. Summer Appeals Recap and IB tally review comments and questions

The SC briefly discussed the nature of IB courses in general. The committee was interested in hearing from appeals committee members about the increased number of appeals approved. All but one of the students who appealed this summer successfully reflected on their academic situations and provided academic plans for improvement. It also was noted that each student approved took responsibility for his/her situation. All decisions by the committee were unanimous. All students who successfully appeal received contracts, as required by policy.

If students' appeals are denied, they are required to reapply if they wish to return after one year. The Office of Admissions coordinates reapplication, and the Student Standing Scholastic Committee reviews the application and provides a contract for students accepted for readmission.

6. Writing for the Liberal Arts (WLA) general education requirement discussion continued

During the October 9 meeting, the Chair offered the motion below to guide a discussion on the WLA general education requirement.

“The Scholastic Committee will begin evaluation of all student transfer courses for possible meeting of the Writing for the Liberal Arts general education requirement. The evaluation will be based on the general education proposal approved by Campus Assembly, transfer course catalog descriptions plus stated goals/objectives. The evaluation will be informed by previous Campus Assembly discussion and previously approved courses by the writing coordinator.”

Rationale: Students have the right to transfer course evaluation per the UMM catalog, and Scholastic Committee is expected to do that transfer course evaluation per the UMM Constitution.

The motion was tabled, and the SC requested that the Chair invite Dean Finzel to the October 16 meeting. Due to a full calendar, the Dean was unable to attend. Korn was asked to follow up with the Dean's Office to find another date.

As registrar and as Morris's Policy Advisory Committee representative, Dingley asked to add remarks to the previous discussion from October 9, a meeting she was unable to attend.

SC's constitutional charge is to oversee general education, including the oversight of transfer and exemptions. The SC empowers the transfer evaluation coordinator to review for general education requirements. General education has evolved. At the time of quarter to semester conversion, Morris discussed improvements to general education. At one of the Assembly meetings, a General Education Committee member stated that for general education to be successful it must benefit the students. General Education ensures the liberal arts education breath. At that time, the Assembly moved general education from criteria-based to goal-based, and the General Education Committee disbanded itself because a committee was no longer needed to review courses for criteria. Instead, the goals, as outlined in the catalog, are used. Proposed courses move from faculty to discipline to Curriculum Committee to assembly to ensure that general education goals are being met. Transfer courses are reviewed against Morris's goals not criteria. For a transfer course to be a substitute for a Morris course, the faculty evaluate criteria.

The ACT exemption no longer is valid for WLA, but it should be noted that students who were exempt from College Writing based on the English portion of the ACT score often took ENGL 1011 even though they were not required to do so for the gen ed.

Students are looking for ways to satisfy college credits before they attend Morris, and their parents and Minnesota legislators are expecting them to do so. There were some with a genuine belief before ENGL 1601 and WLA were implemented that no courses would satisfy WLA.

The Chair briefly reviewed ENGL 1601 and WLA history using SC meeting minutes, Assembly minutes, and correspondence for new members.

There remains concern about how to ensure Morris students have writing skills.

A motion was made to table the vote until the October 23 meeting, seconded, and passed with one abstention.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Korn
Scholastic Committee Executive Staff