

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Scholastic Committee

Campus Governance

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2-3-2014

### Scholastic minutes 02/03/2014

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**Scholastic Committee  
2013-14 Academic Year  
February 3, 2014  
Meeting Fifteen Approved**

**Present:** Jennifer Goodnough, chair, Brenda Boever, Judy Korn, Hilda Ladner, Peter Wyckoff, Nic McPhee, Steve Gross, Marcy Prince, Laddie Arnold, Andrew Sletten, guest Ashleigh Thompson, SC Morris Administrative Fellow

**Absent:** Saesun Kim, Clare Dingley, Chad Braegelmann, Jennifer Herrmann, Roland Guyotte

**1. Chair's Report**

Pilar Eble, director of the International Students Program, is reviewing the minutes for January 28, 2014.

The Chair and other SC members will be hearing another academic integrity case.

The SC may need to discuss CLEP credit limits in the future. Currently, Morris has a 32-credit limit on the general topics exams and no limit on subject exams. The exams have not changed, and disciplines were encouraged at Campus Assembly last year to contact us if discrepancies in student preparation are identified.

**2. SCEP Report**

McPhee will be on sabbatical for the 2014-15 academic year, and the campus will need a SCEP representative replacement. Michelle Page, Committee on Committees, is aware of the need. Please contact Nic or Michelle if interested or for more information.

**3. International Students Program recommendations motion and continued discussion**

The Chair suggested that we discuss the broader question "Why do we give FL exemption to students who have English as a second language? The answer will help inform whether this can be applied to the question of IETLS scores for SUFE students.

Proficiency tests were given to international students at one time in Morris's history, but the practice was not formalized in 1999 when the general education requirements were converted from criteria base to goal basis. In addition, we may we need to speak to the Curriculum Committee about assessing domestic students with a nonEnglish first language in regard to the FL goal. Is FL about a non-English language, a second language or a foreign language?

The original intent was proficiency in a second language. The campus expects proficiency in English.

The current catalog reads:

B. Foreign Language: To develop proficiency in in (sic) a single language other than English at the level equivalent to the first full year of college language study.

Former catalogs read:

B. Foreign Language: To develop some fluency in the skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing in a second language; and critical insight into another culture.

Goodnough has not found a reference to the FL goal change in Campus Assembly minutes. Previous catalogs reflect more flexibility in the second language requirement and also introduction to another culture.

The SC should recommend to the Curriculum Committee to reconsider the goal and also to consider renaming the goal. A number of SC members expressed concern about the title "Foreign Language" and suggested second language or world language be considered.

The discussion today was to investigate ways that the FL requirement, and language test scores as demonstration of proficiency, could perhaps help Nancy Pederson, ESL instructor, and Eble with their interactions with ESL students who would benefit from more English courses. Without clarity from Curriculum Committee, that will not be possible. The Chair will contact Curriculum to learn if the goal has changed and about intent. SC needs a statement of policy rather than practice.

The SC will form a small group, ideally including a Curriculum Committee member or the Dean, for continued discussion of several INTL student issues.

#### **4. Scholastic Committee's Morris Administrative Fellow project**

Ashleigh Thompson has been serving as the SC's administrative fellow. Fall semester, she worked three hours per week. During spring semester, she will work four hours per week. The Dean's Office MSAF funding was depleted by the end of fall semester. OTR dollars, appropriate for institutional work study, are being used to continue Thompson's work on the SC project. To date, she has reviewed SC minutes back to 2002, a total of 150 sets of minutes. After review, she discerns which of 22 different SC responsibility topics the minutes address. The final step is copying the minutes into the 22 different categories. At the end of the semester, Thompson and Korn will meet with Computing Services to determine a means to further organize the information in a searchable system.

#### **5. Discussion on questions for the Director of Admission's presentation**

Bryan Herrmann, director of the Office of Admissions, will present to the SC at the beginning of March. The Chair asked for the SC to brainstorm topics that we may wish Herrmann to address.

- gender breakdown
- ACT information by score rather than ranges
- number of PSEO students who enroll
- admission decisions for SUFE students
- prior learning types of credits as well as number of students
- first-generation students demographics: small towns versus large towns, minority groups, ACT scores, prior learning credits
- recruitment and retention correlation
- definition of NAS/transfer in regard to international students
- transfer students interested in computer science and biology, and the ability to graduate in four years
- transfer students rate of retention and graduation
- demographic information about the ~30 percent of new high school students who do not have prior learning credits
- review of incoming credits from 2012 class and how the credits did or did not impact students' academic plans

#### **6. Updates from the Registrar regarding policy review postponed due to illness**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Korn  
Scholastic Committee Executive Staff