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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee Minutes
May 3, 2005

The Scholastic Committee held its final meeting of the year on Tuesday, May 3, at 3:45 in the Behmler Conference Room.

Members present: S. Aronson, B. Burke, K. Crandall, J. Goodnough, J-M. Kim, P. Lawrence, N. McPhee (chair), K. Strissel, D. De Jager, S. Haugen, K. Klinger (coordinator), R. Thielke

Agenda

1. The April 12 minutes were approved.

2. Announcements:

- a. Coordinators' schedules: Karla Klinger announced that she will continue as coordinator until June 30 and that Leslie Meek will begin her role as coordinator beginning July 1. Klinger will write the annual report, with Meek completing the portion on academic suspension.
- b. Suspension notices will go out in late May as soon as the grades are in. The sub-committee reviewing appeals will consider appeals in late July. Dian Lopez, Gwen Rudney and Mark Fohl will serve with Meek, as they have in the past. James Morales, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Enrollment, will serve for the first time. The committee likes to have those staff in charge of admission see how the students they admit are faring.
- c. Petitions requiring committee action in the early part of the summer will be sent to the full committee via email. Administrative decisions will be made by Nic McPhee, Ruth Thielke and Klinger until June 15th. Dorothy De Jager will fill in for Thielke, and Meek will replace Klinger after June 30. As of this writing (6/28), one petition was reviewed by the administrative trio and will be forwarded to the full committee in fall 05.
- d. McPhee reported that the process for reviewing the possible academic integrity case has been decided upon after consultation with the Twin Cities academic integrity staff. The course instructor will meet with the student who is accused of cheating. Jenny Nellis, Humanities division chair, will meet with the student who is not in the class. The cases will then be presented to Sandy Olson-Loy and may or may not come to the academic integrity sub-committee. [Note: One of the students is not returning; the other will state his/her position in writing for the file.]
- e. McPhee reviewed the approach he will take in Assembly regarding the removal of D limits.

3. Student petition

A student asked permission to use the B+ she earned in Chemistry in fall 2004 in place of the same course taken at UMTC in summer session 1. The committee determined in fall that courses within the University system that have the same content can be considered repeat courses. This request was approved.

The same student requested a language exemption because she speaks Hmong. She was born in Laos, came to this country at the age of three or four, and completed all of her schooling in the US. She does not read or write Hmong. Through a connection provided by a committee member, the coordinator made an arrangement to have students' Hmong language facility tested in the Twin Cities. However, UMM Hmong students are not taking advantage of the opportunity for several reasons. We agreed to try to find solutions to this problem next year. Since Hmong has become a written language only in the past 50 years, perhaps some exceptions can be made. [Note: The Hmong evaluator told the coordinator on May 9th that he is willing to evaluate reading, writing, listening, and speaking or to evaluate speaking alone, if that is UMM's decision. He is willing to conduct the evaluation by telephone or in person.]

4. Report from K. Strissel on communication about academic progress: Kristen Strissel, 2004-05 MSCA Vice President for Academic Affairs, distributed a new draft of her resolution to increase student awareness of academic policy. The document is attached. Strissel will be on the Scholastic Committee next year and will carry on this project for MCSA. Several Committee members responded to her closing recommendations:

We liked the suggestion that weekly academic facts provided by the different offices be promoted over KUMM.

We recommended that if pamphlets are distributed, they should go out before the end of the withdrawal period. Students who get early alerts automatically might receive a pamphlet. The pamphlet link should be sent to advisors. FYS, Residential Life and RA's might be appropriate links for distribution.

A hot line could be developed to provide an impersonal place for students to raise questions about academic progress.

5. McPhee thanked the members of the committee for their service this year. The meeting was adjourned.