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Scholastic Committee

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**Scholastic Committee
2013-14 Academic Year
February 10, 2014
Meeting Sixteen Minutes Approved**

Present: Jennifer Goodnough, chair, Marcy Prince, Chad Braegelman, Jennifer Herrmann, Judy Korn, Hilda Ladner, Roland Guyotte, Peter Wyckoff, Steve Gross, Laddie Arnold, Andrew Sletten, Nic McPhee

Absent: Brenda Boever, Clare Dingley, Saesun Kim, James Wojtaszek

1. Minutes review and approval

January 28, 2014 minutes approved with three abstentions
February 3, 2014 minutes approved with one abstention

2. Chair's Report

Matt Zaske, Membership Committee chair, has confirmed that the committee has approved James Wojtaszek for Scholastic Committee (SC) membership, which will be an action item at the upcoming Campus Assembly. The SC will not meet on February 17, 2014, unless a pressing topic materializes before or on Friday, February 14.

3. SCEP Report

McPhee shared information about the PeopleSoft 9.0 Faculty Center demo. Information on transfer credit policy, credit by nationally recognized exams policy, and departmental special exams policy, as well as clarifying and formalizing business practices, was sent to SC members via email. General education at the Twin Cities (TC) campus is under review. The Council on Liberal Education recertifies liberal education courses. Twenty-five TC faculty members have signed a protest that will be going to the Faculty Consultative Committee. At issue, the Council on Liberal Education reviewed 228 courses, denied two, and sent almost half of the courses back for faculty review. At Morris, curriculum is handled more like the TC department/college level. The Council on Liberal Education serves the same function as the Morris Curriculum Committee. Departments used to "own" a requirement. Now, other departments provide courses for general education requirements.

4. Petition # 1236

Request to have a course count in a different GER than designated, HUM instead of HDIV.

Move to table with one abstention. The SC requests adviser and instructor comments for insight into their perspectives. Have they explored directed studies? Also need clarity regarding this petition's focus: institutional responsibility, spirit of the requirement, or hardship petition.

5. International Students Program committee membership

Ladner, Wyckoff, Kim, and Zyck Herrmann will serve on the International Student Program (ISP) recommendations subcommittee. The Curriculum Committee has been asked to provide a member and clarity on interpretation of the FL general education goals.

The committee charge is to process numbers and data from ISP to guide conversations. Pilar Eble, ISP director, can provide additional data. In addition, the committee will work with the Dean to clarify the foreign language goal in regard to international students, in particular, ESL student with 5.5 IETLS scores. Practice must match policy. Support structures for international students should be discussed as well as the possibility of a summer language proficiency exam. Other areas of discussion include:

- tracking as advanced standing students

- 2010 SUFE cohort in year four should be applying to graduate
- Of those SUFE students who transfer to TC, do we know if and when they graduate?
- Do SUFE student transfer to other colleges? If so, where?
- IC exemption could be revised to be 12 credits from a western style institution. Would SUFE students benefit from IC?
- Can we predict which students will need more help and support, take advantage of resources?
- ESL as a prereq for ENGL 1601

6. Transfer of religion courses discussion

From the Morris transfer website:

Religious studies from public regionally accredited colleges go through the normal transfer review. Religious studies from private colleges go through a special faculty review committee.

From University of Minnesota Transfer Policy

Religious studies courses transfer if they are not doctrinal, confessional, or sectarian in nature. Religious studies courses from public institutions transfer without special review; religious studies courses from all other institutions will be evaluated by appropriate college or departmental faculty.

Korn shared that evaluating transfer religion courses from private colleges is often a pretty black and white decision. Morris just doesn't accept courses if they are focused on a private college's religious affiliation. But recently, she has noted that a number of transfer courses from private colleges with religious affiliations are focused more on shared inquiry, critical thinking, and studying a particular faith from a number of perspectives rather than the college's denomination. She has requested syllabi from a number of students, and the syllabi, she believes, confirm that these courses should be considered for transfer.

Morris no longer has a "religious courses evaluation committee" as it did in the past. The SC decided that Morris needs to revive the special evaluation committee. Gross and Korn will be members. The chairs of the Division of Humanities and Division of Science and Math will be asked to recommend volunteers. The committee will meet only as necessary. One of Korn's transfer resources is the database that records the religion courses that have been approved for transfer by the Twin Cities Religious Studies department professors. Morris accepts those courses for general education credits. So, only courses that have potential for approval and are not approved through Religious Studies will need to be reviewed by the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Korn
Scholastic Committee Executive Staff