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**Scholastic Committee
2014-15 Academic Year
December 9, 2014
Meeting Eight Minutes Approved**

Present: Roland Guyotte, Laddie Arnold, Megan Jacobson, Chad Braegelmann, Hilda Ladner, Judy Korn, Brenda Boever, Jess Larson, Tisha Turk, Leslie Meek, Merc Chasman

Absent: Yee Thao, Steve Gross, Marcy Prince, Jennifer Rothchild

1. Agenda review Roland Guyotte, Chair, conducted the meeting.
2. November 25, 2014, minutes approved
3. Chair's Report
Upon learning that Tisha Turk has a prior engagement on Wednesdays at noon, Judy Korn offered to go back and review everyone's schedule to look for a time for the Scholastic Committee (SC) to meet next semester.

4. SCEP Report:
Discussed the rollout of the new Graduate SERU, Student experience survey. Originally undergrad (developed at UC); now adding grad students (pilot developed largely at UMN). Core (now, pilot) + modules (developed later). 30 percent of grad students aren't finishing degrees.

Discussed current trends in financial aid, indebtedness, and fiscal literacy (including the recently-completed financial aid survey) led by Robert McMaster. Data is UMTC only. 39 percent have no debt (though this includes some international students who can't carry debt in the US); average debt for students who do have debt: \$27,446. Students who don't graduate in four years carry a much higher debt load—and a much higher percentage end up with student loans.

Discussed and approved amendment to the Administrative Policy: Leave of Absence and Readmission for Undergraduates. Confirmed timing of query run: for UMM, it will be *after* registration info goes out.

Information received on the Not Reported (NR) grade from Tina Falkner and grading procedures: timing of the NR process. Last fall, SCEP was alerted to a change in the grading process due to the PeopleSoft upgrade. Starting in spring 2015, blank or un-entered grades will be replaced with NR. This is an administrative process and the NR cannot be added to a student record by an instructor or grader. The NR can be changed to an approved grade by using the delivered grade change process in PeopleSoft. The NR will remain on students' records until changed by the instructor or proxy. This process will allow grade rosters to be completely filled-in, and therefore able to be posted to students' records. The process for administratively entering the NR will be run two hours after the University's official grading deadline. With the PeopleSoft upgrade, all official grading activities (i.e., midterm, final and grade changes) will take place in the Faculty Center.

5. Constitution Review
Guyotte began the discussion by stating he would like the Constitution to be transparent. Leslie Meek pointed out that the Constitution does not state to whom the SC reports nor who oversees it. SC discussed its relationship with the academic dean and Campus Assembly. After Tisha Turk commented on the SC's role to hear petitions being unclear in the Constitution, Meek asked which SC tasks should be included in the Constitution and which information could go on the website. Guyotte responded, stating the Constitution should indicate SC's mission and powers, not enumerate all procedures, which are more appropriately identified on the website. Careful deliberation about the wording used in the Constitution followed. Members wanted the wording to be broad enough as to not limit the powers of the SC, but also specific enough that the SC's role is clear. Using "including" in the first sentence was added to inform readers that the SC's responsibilities are not limited to only those matters. The addition of "undergraduate" was made to clarify that the SC's scholastic oversight is in regard to students. Many members believed the policy should also include a reference to action taken by the SC, and it was agreed that the words "enforce policies" would satisfy this request. It was also agreed that the SC does not admit students but rather is concerned with policy related to admissions and thereby the removal of "admits students" was approved. The SC voted on the following revisions to be submitted to the Campus Assembly Steering Committee:

<http://www.morris.umn.edu/committees/constitution/CampusConstitution.pdf>

Section 7. Scholastic Committee

A. Membership

The Scholastic Committee consists of fifteen members, including six faculty members (one the UMM representative to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy), four students, one USA staff member, two P&A members (one from the athletic staff), and two *ex officio*, non-voting members—the VCAA/dean or his/her designee and the registrar.

B. Responsibilities

The Scholastic Committee develops, reviews, and recommends policies affecting the quality of education. ~~It is including~~ **concerned with** such matters as admissions, academic progress, academic advising, student academic honesty, **undergraduate** scholarship, and graduation. It has the power to **enforce policies and to** grant exceptions to academic regulations when the spirit of such regulations has been satisfied. The committee ~~admits students and~~ evaluates transfer credit in accordance with standards established by the campus assembly.

The motion to approve the proposed constitution changes was approved by all members present.

Discussion about what should be included in the SC website will take place in the spring. It will address concerns regarding the inclusion of actions related to academic honesty, petitions, regulation of suspension, and readmission after suspension.

6. Multi-institutional enrollment brief update

Korn presented data about Multi-Institutional enrollment for the 2014-15 academic year.

Multi-I numbers for fall 2014:

One course: 14 students

Off campus: 27 students (includes 13 study abroad students)

Total Multi-I : 41

Multi-I numbers for spring 2015:

One course: 18 students

Off campus: 11 students (includes 6 study abroad students)

Total Multi-I: 29 (still missing quite a few study abroad applications)

After looking at the study abroad numbers, Guyotte thought it best not to do anything with study abroad. Korn suggested the SC ask the Study Abroad office for a report in the spring. Laddie Arnold asked, if students can only enroll for one semester of Multi-I per academic year; does that mean students can only participate in study abroad for one semester? Korn replied that study abroad applications are accepted to participate for a full academic year.

Guyotte questioned whether the policy would allow any student to enroll in Multi-I to take an online course one semester and re-enroll in Multi-I for all courses a second semester. Korn expressed her preference to adhere to what was decided at the previous meeting: one semester per academic year with a review of petitions on a case by case basis. Merc Chasman asked if the statement about petitions could be put into the policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Senger

Office of the Registrar