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Scholastic minutes 04/04/2012

Scholastic Committee

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Minutes
Scholastic Committee 2011–12, Meeting #18
April 4, 2012

Members attending: Michelle Page, chair, Allison Wolf, Luciana Ranelli, Dennis Stewart, Steve Gross, Jen Zych Herrmann, Peh Ng, Chad Braegelmann, Peter Wyckoff, Tammy Berberi, guest Brenda Boever, coordinator of Advising, Judy Korn, executive staff, Absent: Dillon McBrady, Hilda Ladner, Erin Christensen, Clare Dingley, Holly Gruntner,

1. Approved March 28, 2012, minutes.
2. Chair report

The Chair provided a committee report at Campus Assembly on Tuesday, April 3, 2012. The Chair did not include the Scholastic Committee's college writing discussion because the Curriculum Committee did not mention that project in its report.

3. Athletic scheduling for spring 2012

Braegelmann reported his conversation with Mark Fohl, athletic director, on this topic. This scheduling situation happens every third or fourth year. Fohl stated that students feel that they do not need to participate.

Motion to approve request for athletic schedule during study day. Second. Approve 8. Deny 1. Abstain 0. Motion approved.

4. Athletic scheduling for future: policy

Chair talked to both Sandy Olson Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Mark Fohl, athletic director, to determine their reaction to Scholastic Committee establishing a policy regarding athletic scheduling rather than receiving requests as scheduling conflicts arise. Both were in favor of a policy to make these situations "automatic." They also noted that the Academic Alert athletic representative would be a key person in monitoring if a policy was established.

The following policy was proposed:

Current University of Minnesota policy precludes scheduling required events during Study Days or Final Exam Weeks. Exceptions are granted by the Senate Committee on Education Policy (SCEP). The full policy can be found at: <http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/EXAM.html> SCEP has empowered the UMM Scholastic Committee to review UMM request for exceptions to this scheduling policy. These exceptions are then reported to SCEP, the final authority (as per policy). In order to facilitate the efficiency and timely review of regular exceptions that arise in Athletics, the following policy (modeled after a similar Twin Cities policy) has been approved.

Policy on Conference and Tournament Play during Study Day and Finals Week

In those instances where post-season competitive events occur during Study Days or Finals Week, the UMM Scholastic Committee will consider them approved (that is, without requiring explicit action on the part of the Committee) subject to the following conditions:

- a. The event is in normal progression in the sport, leading from in-season competition to conference or regional championships and then to national championship competition;
- b. Participation in such play is not required of students;
- c. Coaches, with the assistance and oversight of the Athletics representative to Morris Academic Alert, ensure that satisfactory alternative academic arrangements have been made; and
- d. The event is conducted under the aegis of the athletic conference, the NCAA or the appropriate national sport governing body if it is not the NCAA.

Policy Implementation Notes

The Athletic Director or Coach of the sport requesting the policy exception must complete the exception form (located on the Scholastic Committee web site) and forward it to the Scholastic Committee. The request will be approved by the Scholastic Executive Committee, provided the above conditions are met, and will report its action to the UMM Scholastic Committee and to SCEP.

Discussion allowed members of the Scholastic Committee to speak both in favor of the need for a policy and against.

If an “automatic” policy is in place, it might encourage students to feel “obligated” to participate. If considered case by case, the committee is making a statement that each situation is important enough to be considered.

An established policy would facilitate the Academic Alert athletic representative’s involvement. In addition, the coach of each sport works with individual students.

Clarification: the Academic Alert rep is not the faculty representative to Athletics.

It was noted that the total number class period “misses” by students needs to be addressed beyond athletics.

Motion to establish a policy regarding athletic competitions on study days. Second. For 3. Against 5. Abstain 1. Motion fails.

5. Petition 1206 Denied. Approve 2. Deny 7. Abstain 0.

6. Petition 1207 Approved. Approve 9. Deny 0. Abstain 0.

7. Contextualization of the transcript

Ng report that SCEP established a subcommittee to work on details regarding contextualization of the transcript. After reviewing many, a model, determined the easiest to implement and to understand, has been proposed. Email concerns to Ng.

8. The Chair asked the committee to weigh in on a student request based on the recent IC discussion. A student, not a first-year student, wants to register for a second IC course for grade replacement. Should the Registrar be empowered to allow this student into the course after new students register? After discussion, the committee determined that the student took the IC course, they received a grade, and they are no longer a first-year student, so the answer is “no.”

Receptfully submitted,

Judy Korn
Executive staff