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Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris Scholastic Committee
Meeting #19, April 11, 2011

The Scholastic Committee met at 8:00 on Monday, April 11, in Imholte 217.

Present: T Berberi, E Christensen, J Goodnough (Chair), S Gross, S Haugen, A Helgerson, Matt Privratsky, L Ranelli, J Ratliff-Crain, J Schryver, D Stewart

1. The minutes of April 4 were approved.
2. Reports
 - The chair shared information presented to the University Senate Student Academic Integrity Committee meeting that illustrates that the number of academic violations at UMM is not out of line with numbers at the Twin Cities.
 - Current Academic Integrity Procedures document. The chair highlighted changes/additions to the procedures resulting from meeting with the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. The revised document will be sent to the committee as a google doc for review and comment, and will be on the agenda for vote at next week's meeting. One item that is not included in the procedures but may merit further discussion is the effect, if any, of violations on a student's eligibility for college awards.
 - There was agreement from the ESL coordinator, the international student advisor, and the assistant dean (on behalf of the Academic Assistance Center) to assess the language skills of students who are on probation after their first semester at UMM. If PB students are suspended, and the assessment team confirms that the poor academic performance is primarily because of language issues, the students will be allowed to transfer to the Minnesota English Language Program (MELP). When they achieve a predetermined proficiency they will be allowed to return to UMM.
3. IELTS admission scores – what is our goal?
 - While acknowledging that more factors than just a low score contribute to predicting success, there is concern that the 5.5 score is a full point lower than the UMTC score.
 - Although there is no standard conversion between TOEFL/IELTS scores, the IELTS information site classifies a score of 5.5 as “not ready for college work.”
 - We need data to determine if the students with 5.5 are the ones getting suspended.
 - The data set is too small (only one year with a large international student population) to be reliable.
 - Is the UMM intensive English summer program a reality?
 - If it is, can we mandate that students with a 5.5 IELTS attend the summer program?

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy De Jager