

4-18-2011

## Scholastic minutes 04/18/2011

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris Scholastic Committee  
Meeting #20, April 18, 2011

The Scholastic Committee met at 8:00 on Monday, April 18, in Imholte 217.

Present: C Braegelmann, C Cole, C Dingley, J Goodnough (Chair), S Gross, S Haugen, H Ladner, L Ranelli, J Ratliff-Crain, J Schryver, C Stemper, D Stewart

Visitor: M Page

Guests: Peh Ng, Bryan Herrmann

1. The minutes of April 11 were approved.
2. Reports
  - The chair presented the report of spring term administrative approvals.
  - The chair requested the Executive Committee to place the Academic Integrity procedures on the Campus Assembly agenda of May 2. The procedures will be sent to the Campus Assembly listserve and posted on the Scholastic website home page for review.
  - The last meeting of the year will be on April 25. Bring agenda items for 2011-2012. During the last half of the hour the committee will receive a demonstration of Pharos software.
3. Discussion of the data concerning increasing the preparation requirement from the current 3 years of math to 4 years. In fall 2009 the Scholastic Committee endorsed the increase for several reasons:
  - For consistency among the University of Minnesota campuses;
  - Because it is a strong predictor of success in college;
  - Because most federal and state grants require 4 years of math, most schools will adopt the new requirement.
  - Students without the requirement will not be denied admission if they are otherwise admissible.

In summer 2010 admissions reviewed 1200 new high school (NHS) applications to gather data on the number of years of math that were taken by freshmen who enrolled in fall 2006, 2008, and 2009. UMM began imaging in 2006, and the data will be collected on a 2-year basis. The data for 2010 will not be available until summer 2010, so 2009 was substituted in this first report. Trends are not assumed from the data because high school transcript titles are unclear: "Year 4 Math" may or may not include statistics or physics. See the table below.

Bryan Herrmann and Peh Ng presented the data. Applications were reviewed to investigate the impact, if any, on the retention and timely graduation of students who had taken 4 years of math in high school. There is peer review literature suggesting that the percentage of students earning degrees is highest for those who took trigonometry and physics in high school. Another claim is that high school students, regardless of major, who take 4 years of college prep courses beginning as freshmen tend to be successful in college. In the table, the effect is more pronounced in the 4-year graduation rate than in retention. The data measures correlation, not cause/effect. The data confirms the fall 2009 decision by Scholastic Committee to adopt a 4-year math requirement at UMM.

Summary of the table data: Roughly 3/4 of the students during that time arrived with 4 years of math; while the number increased slightly during that time, Bryan said he did not think that the change (from 72% to 80%) was significant. Looking at the retention rates during the first year for each class, those students who had 4 years had substantially higher retention rates: 50 to 90% higher than students without 4 years. When we looked at graduation rates after 4 years (for the 2006 cohort), the graduation rates are about 45% higher than for those students who did not have 4 years of high-school math.

Preparation requirements give the message to high schools of what is needed to succeed in college. They are designed to enable students to hit the ground running and to avoid the need to commit university resources to remedial work. Data from the Twin Cities shows that 85% of incoming students have 4 years of math.

Math skills deteriorate if not used, so it is important to take a math course in the senior year of high school. Students who take pre-calculus as juniors, then opt out of a math class in the senior year, score lower on the math placement test, often placing in pre-calculus as college freshmen. This year UMM is offering on line the opportunity to make up the 4<sup>th</sup> year of math.

At UMTC, deficiencies in preparation requirements are tracked by APAS. At UMM, completion of the general education requirements for graduation makes up any deficiencies. The Scholastic Committee will need to pay attention to the new general education requirements to see if any adjustments need to be made. Students with a deficiency in one or more areas can be placed in a student group, but with no tracking, no data is available on the graduation rate of those students.

### UMM New High School Students - 4 Years H.S. Math

#### 4 Yrs HS Math?

Entry Term	No	%	Yes	%	Total
Fall 2006	106	27.89%	274	72.11%	380
Fall 2008	90	24.06%	284	75.94%	374
Fall 2009	79	19.51%	326	80.49%	405
<b>Total of 3 Terms</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>23.73%</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>76.27%</b>	<b>1159</b>

#### 1st Year Retention

Entry Term	4 Yrs HS Math?	Enrl	%	Not Enrl	%	Total
Fall 2006	No	84	79.25%	22	20.75%	106
	Yes	235	85.77%	39	14.23%	274
	<b>Total</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>83.95%</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>16.05%</b>	<b>380</b>
Fall 2008	No	75	83.33%	15	16.67%	90
	Yes	252	88.73%	32	11.27%	284
	<b>Total</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>87.43%</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>12.57%</b>	<b>374</b>
Fall 2009	N	58	73.42%	21	26.58%	79
	Y	280	85.89%	46	14.11%	326
	<b>Total</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>83.46%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>16.54%</b>	<b>405</b>
<b>Total of 3 Terms</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>84.90%</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>15.10%</b>	<b>1159</b>

#### 4 Year Graduation/Retention

Entry Term	4 Yrs HS Math?	Degree	%	Enrl	%	Not Enrl	%	Total
Fall 2006	No	39	36.79%	21	19.81%	46	43.40%	106
	Yes	147	53.65%	41	14.96%	86	31.39%	274
	<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>48.95%</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>16.32%</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>34.74%</b>	<b>380</b>

#### Current Requirements

Four years of English;

Three years of math including one year each of elementary algebra, intermediate algebra, and geometry;

Three years of science with one year each of biological and physical science;

Three years of social studies, including United States history; \*

Two years of a single second language. \*

\*Applicants missing this requirement will not be denied admission if they are otherwise admissible.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy De Jager

### 3. Discussion and vote on Academic Integrity Procedures

Tracy Smith, University legal counsel, recommended several additions that reinforce the U of M interpretation of FERPA as it applies to internal information. That language will also be inserted in the letter from Student Affairs. Support Staff provided by the Assistant Dean's office (which does not exist) was changed to "Dean's designee with Scholastic Committee approval." The changes will be incorporated into a final document that is submitted for Campus Assembly endorsement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy De Jager

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