

2-25-2010

## Scholastic minutes 02/25/2010

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris Scholastic Committee  
Minutes #12, February 25, 2010

The Scholastic Committee met at 3:00 p.m. on February 25, 2010 in the Behmler Conference Room. Members present: K Baker, C Dingley, A Earl, J Goodnough, M Govada, D Magner, B McQuarrie (Chair), Matt Privratsky, J Ratliff-Crain, J Schryver

1. The Minutes of February 17 were approved.

2. Announcements:

- Membership of Academic Alert working group: J. Deane, J. Goodnough, Matt Privratsky

3. Proposal for Probationary credit limit.

Students who are placed on probation will be allowed to enroll in 12-16 credits at their next queued registration; 12 credits is full-time financial aid status, 4 courses usually yield 16 credits. The range addresses the needs of a variety of students. The proposal outlines the process to exceed 16 credits. This process is enforceable only for students who are in their second probationary semester.

1) A student who is on probation and wants to go above the 16 credit limit must meet with her/his adviser and create a weekly schedule that includes :

- the discipline and number of the class that will exceed the limit
- the professor
- on- and off-campus job schedule
- extracurricular schedule
- a 1-4 sentence rationale of why they want/need to take the class
- the estimated amount of time they will be able to dedicate to homework for that class.

A form will be designed that includes the request and a contract described in 3) below. The conversation between the adviser and the student should include an assessment of how the student is doing in classes during the current semester ( GPA estimator/calculator can determine what combination of grades must be earned to achieve a term GPA of at least 2.00). The adviser can include that result when forwarding the schedule recommendation.

2) Once the schedule is created the adviser will submit it to Scholastic, along with a separate document (that the student does not see) that states whether the adviser thinks the student will be capable of handling the course load.

3) If the schedule is approved, the student has to sign a [contract] that states: This schedule and credit load has been approved by [filled in by Scholastic]. ~~They~~ I understand that while the university cannot force me to take only the class(es) listed ~~they are~~ I am strongly advised to do so. Failure to earn a 2.00 term GPA *may* result in suspension at the end of this term. [This statement will appear on the bottom of the request, signed before submission, rather than after action is taken.]

Strengths of the proposal:

- It allows the student to get a visual of the added time commitment.
- It allows the student to ask questions, if they have any, of their adviser
- The contract part is another way for the student to understand the consequences of their actions.
- It requires that the student work with the advisor to learn about the process.
- Students who follow this sort of mapping-out process now find it to be effective.

- The process forces students to look at other options.

Homework:

1. Design a form that includes the process points, the deadlines to use, the contract
2. Revise the May 2010 probation notification to include the template.

Students who go on probation the first time need the tools but may have registered for more than 16 credits during the last queued registration. Currently the director of academic assistance contacts each of those students to discuss their performance and to recommend adjustments to their current schedule.

Other resources were suggested; some of them would require planned implementation. Any deemed to offer substantial help will be included on the Scholastic website.

Timeline for implementation of the PB contract is fall 2010.

- May 2010: Include tools and recommendation of 12-16 credits with PB notification
- October 2010: During queued registration, require contract to exceed 16 credits

Submitted by Dorothy De Jager