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Scholastic minutes 02/06/2008

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee
Minutes # 7, 2/6/2008

The Scholastic Committee met on 2/6/2008, in IH 217. Members present:

J. Deane, D. DeJager, K Gonier-Klopffleisch, S. Haugen, B. Janzen, D. Magner, B. McQuarrie (Chr), L. Meek (Secy), J. Schryver, T. Soderberg, T. Sommers, C. Strand

1. Approval of minutes:

Minutes # 5 from December 3rd, and Minutes # 6 from January 30th were approved.

2. Information:

Petition: waive ArtP based on demonstrated performing arts proficiency through public presentations.
Administrative Approval

3. Discussion of Residency Requirements (discussion continued from previous week):

SCEP and the University Senate passed the following all-University residency requirement 9/29/05:

(1) To be eligible for a University of Minnesota undergraduate degree, a student must present at least 30 semester credits awarded by the University of Minnesota campus from which he or she is seeking to graduate.

(2) Students must complete at least half of upper division major work on the campus from which they are seeking to graduate.

(3) At least 15 credits of the last 30 credits earned prior to the awarding of a University degree must be awarded by the University of Minnesota campus from which a student is seeking to graduate.

(4) For students who seek an academic minor, to be eligible for record of a minor on the University of Minnesota transcript, students must take at least three upper division credits in the minor field at the campus from which they will receive their degree.

A student's college or campus may, under extraordinary circumstances, waive the requirements in sections 2, 3, and 4, above, but not section 1.

All credit awarded by the University, regardless of the type of instruction, shall count toward the credit requirements for the degree.

Interpretation by the Senate Committee on Educational Policy: This policy, revised in the spring of 2005, will apply to incoming students beginning in the fall of 2005.

UMM currently implements items one, three and four, but not two. The discussion centered on the problem of students coming to UMM with most of a major completed, and whether or not policy should be in place to prevent those students from claiming a UMM degree in that major.

The Interim Registrar (Strand) informed the committee that all of the above provisions can be enforced as long as:

- 1) The disciplines define what is "upper division major work"
- 2) Exceptions will be granted by the disciplines for appropriate experiences or circumstances—e.g., National Student Exchange, etc.

3) The expanded policy does not take effect until the next catalog is in force (fall 2009)

The committee approved the following:

Enforcing all four provisions; the disciplines define “upper division major work” for their majors; exceptions to items 2 and 4 are approved by the discipline.

The Chair (McQuarrie) will bring this to the Dean and Curriculum Committee for information and input before bringing it to Assembly.

4. Require NHS who go on probation after their first semester at UMM to enroll in IS 1061 (Learning to Learn).

The coordinator of Academic Assistance (AAC) (K. Gonier-Klopfliesch) indicated that she could bring the committee information on GPAs of students who take Learning to Learn. She indicated that at least some of those students need ongoing support after the class in order to be academically successful. Scholastic records indicate that the course load for spring could be as high as 80 students if this course was mandatory, which might lead to a reorganization of the student services offered by AAC. Also, there is currently no specific expertise in Learning to Learn for students who need help with courses such as chemistry, math and physics. Another problem is that students in Learning to Learn often have very disparate courses and needs, and the instructor cannot address some of the needs without knowing exact course material from every class, which is not possible. K. Gonier-Klopfliesch suggested we might want several common courses (besides FYS) that all incoming freshmen take and that these courses should be in the Social Sciences, particularly in History, Psychology and Sociology, all of which hone the reading and writing skills that all students need. It was noted that the implementation of a spring mandatory class would necessitate the reorganization of courses that students had already registered for, since they would register in the fall for spring courses, but probation status would not be determined until after fall semester was completed.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting Feb 20th, IM 217.