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Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee
Minutes #3, October 1, 2007

The Scholastic Committee met on October 1, 2007, in IH 217. Members present: S. Boyd, D. DeJager (Ex. Asst and USA E.O.), K. Gonier-Klopffleisch, L. Hedquist, B. Janzen, J. Jost, D. Magner, B. McQuarrie (Chr), L. Meek (Secy), J. Pelletier, J. Schryver, T. Soderberg, C. Strand (Interim Reg.)

Guests: B. Boever (Coord. Advising), J. Goodnough (Retention), Bryan Herrmann (Admissions/Retention), J. Morales (Assoc. V.C. Enrollment), S. Olson-Loy (VCSA), R. Swing (FYE Consultant).

1. Introductions, brief synopsis of powers of the committee.
2. The committee discussed academic policies as they relate to the First Year Experience (FYE), with Randy Swing, a nationally known consultant on the FYE.

How to attract and retain first year students:

- get students who are the right 'fit'
- use financial aid to attract them
- good academic advising
- first year seminar
 - must be consistent in work load between sections, but hard to do FYS that works for everyone is student body is dichotomous
 - decide on type – transition, thematic, discipline related or remedial

Academic Alert:

- for data analysis, separate NHS from freshmen by credit
- UMM doesn't have adequate faculty participation
- PB workshops need to be more intensive
- Use GPA as an outcome variable
- Intervene early first semester
- Data suggests we are successful at recognizing students in trouble, but outcome is same whether we recognize them or not
- Disaggregate data, different students groups are having very different experiences here academically

FYE:

- charge fee to support FYE (Ball St. charged \$1000.00/student)
- need more student affairs resources
- use students to tutor, co-teach, do academic advising

Marketing:

- market UMM as a grad prep school
- market how many student are residential and stay on weekends
- market how different from large universities
- make sure students get what we advertise, diversity and small classes

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is on October 8, IH 217.

