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Scholastic Committee
2015-16 Academic Year
May 3, 2016
Meeting Twenty-five Approved Minutes

Present: Steve Gross (chair), Jennifer Goodnough, Brenda Boever, Judy Korn, Merc Chasman, Leslie Meek, Emma Kloos, Madeline Youakim, Dan Magner, Jennifer Rothchild

Absent: Ray Schultz, Joseph Beaver, Edison Yellick and Yujing Song

1. Approve minutes of April 5, 2016

Minutes approved

Approve minutes of April 12, 2016

Minutes approved

Approve minutes of April 19, 2016

Minutes approved with corrections.

Approve minutes of April 26, 2016

Minutes approved

2. Chair's Report

Steve Gross relayed Ray Schultz's advice regarding the proposed change to the foreign language general education requirement. Schultz suggested sending a note to the Curriculum Committee (CC), Membership Committee, and the Dean informing them of Scholastic Committee's (SC) purview.

Gross has sent an email to the newly elected Steering Committee Chair informing him of Scholastic's concerns regarding the foreign language proposal.

Gross attended the most recent Curriculum Committee meeting where the proposal to change the foreign language requirement was approved to go to Campus Assembly. It was understood that the proposal would go from the Curriculum Committee straight to Campus Assembly, without allowing the SC to review and scrutinize the proposal. It was noted that if the Steering Committee is the new executive power of campus governance, they have the power to route or assist the proposal process.

3. SCEP Report

No agenda has been provided for the next meeting, however, it was noted that the policy draft to be reviewed includes text about all study abroad and online credits to be considered as residential credits. Morris currently considers study abroad credits from programs through Morris and the Twin Cities Learning Abroad Center as residential credits. The draft seems to count study abroad credits from programs through any University of Minnesota campus as residential credits. Members saw no problem with the proposal and agreed a SC discussion would not be warranted.

4. Petition #1251

Unanimously approved

5. Summer preparations

- Summer Appeals Group volunteers, three needed, commitment is the first full week in July, read appeals and meet to make appeal decisions
 - Volunteers: Leslie Meek, Jennifer Rothchild, Merc Chasman, Jennifer Goodnough (as Chasman's backup), Brenda Boever (possibly)
- Summer volunteers for Academic Integrity hearings, if needed
 - Volunteers: Steve Gross, Leslie Meek (not available at the beginning of summer), Madeline Youakim (after June 18th), Jennifer Goodnough (out in July), Jennifer Rothchild (as Goodnough's backup)
 - Madeline will ask other students who will be on campus this summer
 - It was suggested that new SC members be contacted to participate
- Summer volunteers for petitions hearings, if needed, SC approves this group to act on its behalf during the summer, reporting back to the committee in the fall
 - Volunteers: Steve Gross, Leslie Meek, Judy Korn, Jennifer Goodnough
 - If petitions are denied, students can appeal to the full committee in the fall.

6. **Foreign Language recap**

The Curriculum Committee (CC) approved the proposed World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (WLLC) general education requirement to be sent to Campus Assembly. It was noted that the CC discussion focused more on the benefits of students having more foreign language experience rather than the impact on students and the complications of implementation. The discussion was so narrowly focused that it did not lend itself to discussion about SC's purview involved in the proposal. Professor Garvaso presented the proposal to the Curriculum Committee, and she noted that Professor Berberi had prepared a response to SC's concerns. Gross asked that she share the document with SC. Members are concerned the proposal will go straight to Campus Assembly as was suggested by the Dean during the CC meeting.

It was noted that science and math faculty have also expressed concerns regarding the proposal. Some concerns about the proposal were regarding the rationale that it was the only general education requirement for which high school coursework may be considered a college-level equivalent. This is not correct.

Members questioned whether it was constitutional for the proposal to usurp Scholastic Committee purview.

It was suggested that if the proposal does not pause at the Steering Committee, then Scholastic should immediately speak to the proposal at Campus Assembly. SC will look at implementation of the proposal in regards to transfer credit.

Members argued that the proposal also fails to address the International Perspective (IP) general education requirement. According to the proposal, 2000- and 3000-level courses will no longer satisfy the IP gen ed. Rather, they will satisfy the proposed new requirement. It was noted that no ECAS has been submitted through the proposal. However, every ECAS will have to change for IP, but it will need to be approved by Campus Assembly. There could also be an impact on the Communication, Language, Literature, and Philosophy (HUM) general education requirement.

Student representative believes that the proposal, despite the claim that it is of benefit to all students, still treats some students unfairly. The language faculty claim that the proposal would affect few students, but members believe that changes to general education requirements should be beneficial to all students.

Members are concerned students with previous foreign language experience may choose a different language so they can study at the 1001 and 1002 level rather than continuing their previous language at the 2000 or 3000 level. It is also believed that students will wait hoping to get a seat in American Sign Language to satisfy their foreign language, which could create a problem for students in their senior year.

Members consider the proposal flawed as it circumvents SC's responsibilities in regards to petitions, exemptions, transfer credit, and prior learning. Members are also worried that the process of writing and revising the proposal did not take into consideration the impact on retention, admissions, and advising. The proposal usurps the SC's constitutional charge.

Finally, members argued that most other general education requirements require a standard level of knowledge for all students, however the proposed WLLC requirement has a moving scale and can differ from student to student.

It was suggested that in the fall SC stick to its constitutional responsibilities. If the proposal goes 'as is' to CA then the chair of SC should request that all sections relating to AP, Transfer, special exams etc be removed before a vote since they had not been routed through SC. Keep the focus on what is our purview and let others express concern (or not) about the actual gen ed.

7. Nationally Recognized Exams statement tabled

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Senger
Office of the Registrar