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Scholastic minutes 10/06/2006

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee
Minutes #4, Oct 6, 2006

The Scholastic Committee met at 9:15 A.M. on Oct 6th, 2006 in Imholte 218.

Members present: J. Anderson, K. Crandall, D. De Jager (Ex. Assistant), K. Gonier Klopfliesch, J. Goodnough, S. Haugen, J. Larson, N. McPhee (Chair), B. McQuarrie, L. Meek (Secretary), S. Perry, M. Stewart, C. Strand (Int. Registrar), J. Wencl.

Guests: B. Boever (Int. Dir. Advising) and P. Lawrence (Retention Committee).

1. Lawrence presented a plan to create a daylong celebration of UMM students' academic accomplishments in the Spring. During this day, classes would be cancelled and students would present their research and artistic accomplishments; as well, study abroad and service learning would be showcased. This plan has already been endorsed by the Strategic Positioning Task Force and CRPC and Lawrence was seeking Scholastic endorsement before presenting this idea to the larger campus. There was a lively discussion of the pros and cons of such an idea. Pros: this would highlight non-classroom academic enterprises that students can engage in and would be particularly useful and informative for freshmen and sophomores; could collect many experiences into one day instead of spreading them out over April, so that students are more likely to find out about these opportunities. Cons: students might not go, faculty might not participate, canceling labs/classes might prove a hardship for instructors and students, the plan was endorsed, participation should be evaluated to determine if this is worth it, it will be an enormous amount of work to put together.

2. The minutes from 9/29 were approved.

3. The committee returned to the discussion of requiring students on probation to meet with their advisors before registering and to be limited to registering for a maximum of 14 cr (unless the advisor approves an increase). Once they have met with their advisors, the hold on their registration may be released over email and students may register on line. It was pointed out that this is an important step forward for both students and advisors since it makes the process more student-friendly and uses available technology to streamline the process. There was a request to add suspension information to the probation letter and a reorganization of catalog copy to make the process clearer. Revised catalog copy is below.

Probation and Suspension

~~Students who do not earn a cumulative or term GPA of 2.00 are placed on probation.~~

Students are placed on academic probation if either the term GPA or the cumulative GPA falls below 2.00. Students on probation remain eligible for financial aid. Students whose term GPA is less than 2.00 for two consecutive terms AND whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.00 are suspended. Suspended students are not eligible for financial aid.

[Above is the statement of probation and suspension policy, with the suspension consequences moved up to make students more aware of the consequences of continued low GPA. Below is the revised Probation implementation statement.]

Probation

~~A student is placed on Scholastic Committee probation if either the term GPA or the cumulative GPA falls below 2.00.~~ Students remain on probation if the term GPA is below 2.00, whether or not the cumulative GPA is above 2.00. A probation hold (PB) is placed on the student's record, and probation letters are sent from the Scholastic Committee, with copies to the advisers, including that include information about resources for improvement. ~~Students on probation need their adviser's signature on a~~

~~registration form and must register in person.~~ Students on probation will be allowed to register for a maximum of 14 credits and must meet with their adviser to discuss appropriate courses; following that meeting the adviser will contact the Registrar's Office to release the PB hold. The adviser may approve registering for more than 14 credits: the approved maximum credits must be stated in the hold release. ~~forfeit their self-registration privileges. An adviser's signature implies that the student and adviser have discussed the registration.~~ Students on probation return to good standing by earning a term GPA and cumulative GPA of 2.00.

The committee unanimously approved the change above to the probation policy. It will be taken to campus assembly for consideration.

The committee was adjourned. The next meeting will be 10/20/06.