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Scholastic minutes 11/01/2005

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee
Minutes # 7, November 1, 2005

The Scholastic Committee met at 8:00 A.M. on November 1st, 2005 in the Science Conference Room (Sci 3500). The next meeting will be November 8th , 2005, in the same room.

Members present: B. Burke, K. Crandall, D. De Jager, J. Goodnough, N. McPhee (chair), L. Meek (secretary), G. Sheagley, and K. Strissel,

1. The October 25th minutes were approved as written.
2. There was a discussion of the academic alert report presented the preceding week. Questions were asked about how many instructors were using the alert system (approx. 50 as of 11/1/05) how many alerts had been generated (100 midterm alerts and approx 220 academic alerts as of 11/1/05). Members were concerned that some students who need to be alerted are not being alerted. The secretary affirmed that this was true, but pointed out that the alert system is voluntary and fairly new and that culture change is slow. Leslie Meek (Co-chair of Academic Alert) agreed to do more data analysis of the spring 05 data from academic alert based on comments from two committee members. These included looking at frequency of the alert system being used in large versus small classes; how many alerted students continue from semester to semester and breaking the number of passing students down into categories that include A-C; C- to D; and F/N. It was also agreed that Advising in conjunction with the SAP appeals committee or Financial Aid should inform advisors that it is better for their students to receive a W in a class than an F. Although both affect financial aid good standing, the F affects the GPA and also affects both categories of SAP (courses completed and GPA).
3. Ken Crandall presented a study he has compiled on student athletes (football players) from 1996 – present. This included average ACT and GPA; % played all four years, % graduated from UMM; and % of in-state players for incoming freshmen and transfer students (broken down year by year). Highlights of the report included that the average high school GPA of incoming freshmen football players is 3.4; and that students recruited as freshmen are more likely to graduate from UMM (60%), than transfer students (43%). Also, in-state students, particularly local students (within a 60 – 80 mile radius) are more likely to graduate than students from out of state. The best football players come from a pool of students whose average ACT score ranges between 21 – 24, and these students in this pool are more likely to graduate from UMM than students with lower or higher average ACT scores.

The meeting was adjourned