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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee
Minutes #12, February 22, 2005

The Scholastic Committee met at 3:45 p.m. in the Behmler Conference Room. We dismissed early because of the Campus Assembly meeting at 4:30. The next meeting will be held on March 8th at 3:45 in the same location.

Members attending: S. Aronson, B. Burke, K. Crandall, B. Fisher, J. Goodnough, W. Hunt, J-M Kim, P. Lawrence, N. McPhee (chair), G. Sheagley, K. Strissel, D. De Jager, K.Klinger (coordinator), L. Meek
Guest: C. Strand

The February 8, 2005 minutes were approved.

Reconsidering the degree limit of 12 credits of D:

The Scholastic Committee is considering whether to recommend to the Assembly that we remove the limit on the number of credits of D applicable to the degree. Faculty would still decide whether D credits are applicable to the major. Clare Strand joined us for the discussion. We first reviewed the history of the 12 credit D limit. When the D was re-introduced in 1985, the number of D credits that could be applied to a student's degree program was limited to 15 quarter credits, patterned after a 12 credit D limit on the TC campus's College of Liberal Arts. Morris had a 5-credit module under quarters, while the TC campus used a 4-credit module. Three courses at Morris was 15 quarter credits, while three courses on the TC campus was 12 quarter credits. With the move to semesters, the 3/2 ratio of quarter to semester credits changed that number from 15 quarter to 10 semester credits. In 2000, the Assembly approved raising the number of D credits from 10 to 12 to allow students to apply to their programs three courses (4 credit module for semesters) in which D's were earned. In the meantime, the College of Liberal Arts on the TC campus dropped its limitations on D's.

Members wanted clarification about how D's are currently calculated on the transcript and in APAS. The transcript carries all University of MN course work but no longer lists courses and grades from non UM institutions. (Study abroad courses count as resident credit in certain instances.) All D's appear on the transcript, but grades from courses that have been repeated are excluded. The GPA the student had obtained at the point of graduation appears at the beginning of the transcript as the "Degree GPA". The Degree GPA is "frozen" and will not change if students complete additional work after their degree is posted to the transcript.

Questions were raised about the GPA's in APAS: the cumulative GPA and the GPA in the major. The cumulative GPA is displayed on the official transcript. The APAS GPA is the same as the cumulative GPA and excludes only those grades from courses that have been repeated. The GPA in the major is reported only in APAS and includes transfer courses that apply to the major.

We were left with questions about how the D's that are not used in APAS appear in the various GPA's. After the meeting, the Registrar confirmed that the cumulative GPA and the APAS GPA are the same. The APAS GPA includes all D's, except for those courses that have been repeated.

This discussion will be continued.

3. Petitions:

#1146—Allow the student to change the grade base from A/F to S/N after the two-week deadline.

The committee requested additional information. **For further discussion**

#1145-- Waive the College Writing requirement based on meeting the spirit of the requirement through college level course work and written themes. **Approved administratively per recommendation by College Writing Coordinator.**

The meeting was adjourned.