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## Scholastic minutes 10/13/2004

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris  
Scholastic Committee  
Minutes #4, October 13, 2004

The Scholastic Committee met at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, October 13th, in Science 3500.  
The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 20th, at 4 p.m. in the same location.

Members present: K. Crandall, W. Hunt, N. McPhee (chair), J. Ropp, B. Fisher, K. Strussel, D. De Jager, S. Haugen, K. Klinger (coordinator), R. Thielke

Because we were one voting member short of a quorum, no actions were taken.

1. Repeat policy: We edited a memo to the Executive Committee explaining the proposed changes in the UMM repeat policy (edited draft below). Both Bert Ahern, former SCEP chair, and Dean Schwaller had agreed that it won't be necessary to apply to SCEP for an exemption, since we will be in compliance with the all-University policy. UMM's differences are those of implementation, which each campus may execute in its own way.

Following is a draft that reflects changes made during and after the meeting.

To: The Executive Committee,  
From: The Scholastic Committee  
Re: Proposed change in the repeat policy

The Scholastic Committee proposes changes in the course repeat policy for action by the Assembly. Current all-University policy allows all students to repeat a course one time and to use the grade earned the second time. Current UMM policy, which is not in compliance with the all-University policy, allows a student earning grades of N, D+ and below to repeat courses one time and to use the grade earned the second time. Students earning grades of S, C- or higher in a repeated course must request permission from the Scholastic Committee to use the second grade.

Proposed UMM policy: *Students may repeat a course once. However, students who receive a grade of S, C or higher may repeat a course once, space permitting.*

*Credit will not be awarded twice for the same or an essentially equivalent course. When a student repeats a course, (a) both grades for the course shall appear on the official transcript, (b) the course credits may not be counted more than once toward degree and program requirements, and (c) only the last enrollment for the course shall count in the student's grade point average."*

Discussion:

We may amend rather than rescind the September 22 motion to follow the all-U grading policy.

Three of the five points listed in the rationale should be used in a discussion with the Campus Assembly but should not be sent out in advance: the disadvantage UMM students face because of the differences in implementation of policy across the University; the ways in which UMM resource questions are addressed; and the need to update the current policy to allow students with grades of C- (1.67 GPA) to retake courses without permission. The point that UMM is not in compliance is included in the opening paragraph. The argument that UMM staff must enter into the record all repeat courses by hand should be omitted.

We don't know what effect allowing all students to repeat courses will have. The number of repeats in the

Twin Cities has been reasonable.

Course instructors will have the responsibility to make the decision about available space in their classrooms.

A student expressed concern that this bureaucratic rule denies students the individualized attention UMM is known for. We discussed whether an appeal process should be available so that students with higher numbers of credits and special circumstances could be allowed into classes. Students can speak with the faculty member and with the division chair.

Information will need to be conveyed to faculty about implementation issues.

2. Grade replacement--transfer courses: R.Thielke indicated that the repeat policy does not need to go to Assembly. It may go to the Executive Committee for information. The Scholastic Committee is providing guidance to her on how transfer policy should be implemented. We are not creating new policy. McPhee said the strongest argument for allowing transfer courses from within the system to be considered as repeat courses is that if students had taken the courses elsewhere first, they would be accepted as meeting a requirement. Crandall noted that UMM summer offerings are limited. The wording for the catalog and for the executive committee will be discussed at our October 20th meeting.

3. Quorum: This additional meeting time had been selected to enable a quorum to be present so that catalog copy and Assembly materials can be completed expeditiously. The chair will contact members who have been absent twice without an apparent conflict. We agreed that in all but the most dire circumstances, business should be acted upon through in-person discussion rather than by email or telephone.

The meeting was adjourned.