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Scholastic minutes 02/18/2003

Scholastic Committee

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University of Minnesota, Morris
Scholastic Committee
Minutes #10, February 18, 2003

The Scholastic Committee met on February 18th at 3:45 p.m. in the Behmler Conference Room. The next meeting will be February 25th at the same time and place.

Members attending: W. Cox, M. Fohl, S. Gashaw, R. Heyman, K. Klinger (Coordinator), B. McQuarrie, N. McPhee, L. Meek (Chair), J. Mullin, R. Richards, K. Sharp, C. Specketer, R. Thielke

1. Minutes: The February 11th minutes were approved.

2. Petitions:

#1194-- Waive the Fine Arts requirement of the GER based on completion of IS 2993, Introduction to Dance History. **Approved**

3. Announcement: Bryan Herrmann wanted the Scholastic Committee to know that some members of the Admissions staff thought the reception for prospective students held in Rochester was well worth doing. He wrote: "I think all people who were at our Rochester reception would say it was successful. Everyone that attended has applied. . . . We didn't have the numbers we have at the Eastcliff Reception but it was just as successful for a first time event, in my opinion."

4. Reconsideration of mid-term grade alert: the remainder of the meeting was devoted to consideration of the mid-term grade alert returned to us by the Campus Assembly. UMM's current policy differs from the Twin Cities in that we request faculty to alert freshmen in any level class whose grade is below a C at mid-terms. The proposal sent to the Assembly had proposed that faculty will notify all students using the web-based system. Non-attendance would be reported through the same method.

Chair Meek reviewed the proposal sent to the Assembly and we reconstructed the main points of the Assembly discussion. Members of the Assembly had discussed the pros and cons of contacting upper class students, some members questioned the need for providing warnings at all, and many objected to the requirement that faculty use the web-system as the method of contact. Others objected to reporting non-attendance.

We considered a draft sent to us by Dean Schwaller: *UMM will provide, and faculty are encouraged to use, a web-based system to notify all students in their classes having grades of C- or below, or to report a student's non-attendance. The same system will also notify the student's adviser.* We decided that it is not Scholastic Committee business to ask faculty to report non-attendance and separated that from the statement. Based on the data provided on student response to the mid-term alert, we continue to support notification. We encourage the use of the web, but other methods meet the spirit of the policy.

Based on discussions in the Assembly and a data review of student response to the web-based alert, the Scholastic Committee proposes the following policy for Assembly consideration:

UMM faculty are encouraged to alert all students in their classes who are earning a C- or less at mid-term.

The University of Minnesota has provided a web-based system to notify students and their advisers, but other methods of notification may be used.

The meeting was adjourned.

Karla Klinger, Coordinator