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Scholastic minutes 04/10/2018

Scholastic Committee

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Scholastic Committee
2017-18 Academic Year
April 10, 2018
Meeting Fifteen Approved Minutes

Present: Leslie Meek (chair), Alyssa Pirinelli, Jennifer Goodnough, Judy Korn, Brenda Boever, Michelle Schamp, Ray Schultz, Dan Magner, Merc Chasman

Absent: Elsie Wilson, Sierra Brown, Trey Goodsell, Harshita Kalidindi, Emma Kloos

Guest: Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean Janet Schrunk Ericksen

1. Approve minutes of March 27, 2018 meeting

Minutes approved.

2. Chair's Report

Barry McQuarrie will no longer continue on the systemwide Student Academic Integrity Committee (SAIC) which means Morris will no longer have representation on the committee and will not have anyone on campus to chair UMM academic integrity hearings. Barry will be around through May, gone during June, and back in July and will continue to act as chair through the summer when he is available. Leslie Meek asked Pieranna Garavaso if she would be willing to serve on the SAIC and Garavaso responded she was interested and would tentatively accept unless she's placed on another committee with a lot of responsibility.

3. SCEP Report

SCEP has revised the Grading and Transcripts policy. There were no substantial changes to the policy, but it will look different. The policy will go to the Faculty Senate in October/November. Goodnough would like Scholastic Committee (SC) to review it early in the fall of 18 in case there are concerns.

At Campus Assembly, Goodnough talked about the changes to the Dean's List policy. Goodnough suggests SC and the Functions and Awards committees get together to clear up the process with petitions, which could occur since the SC approved the changes to Dean's List to become effective spring 2018, but the Twin Cities won't be able to change the Dean's List query right away. Judy Korn is working on getting the query updated.

Vice Provost Bob McMaster shared some data with the University Senate on financial aid. It was suggested from the data that the Twin Cities campus student body has less socio/economic diversity than other campuses. There are around five thousand students whose family income is greater than \$100,000 and an additional five thousand students who don't file a FAFSA at all (see [addendum one](#)). It is important to note these figures when discussing Morris's retention and graduation rates, since UMM's student profile is very different and in general has much greater family income diversity.

SCEP reviewed the percentage of degrees awarded with honors and with distinction. SCEP is interested in whether the number of degrees awarded with honors or with distinction is above 10 percent.

- a. Morris with honors: 2-3% (8-10)
- b. Morris with distinction: 10-15% (40-50)

- c. Twin Cities with distinction: 10-11%
- d. Twin Cities with Latin honors: 4%, The College of Biological Sciences is closer to 13-15% which is much higher than most of the other colleges.
- e. Duluth with Latin honors: 15-17%
- f. Duluth with distinction: 6-7%

SCEP also set the deadline for the completion of incompletes to the grading deadline of the following semester (after that, the grade changes to an F or N). However, faculty retain control of grades and can extend the incomplete contract or change the grade at a later time even if an F or N is recorded.

4. **Petition #1265**

REQUEST: Allow registration for a course after the deadline: this petition is an appeal to the decision made by the Registrar. Motion to approve. Second. Online voting was determined to be optimal since no students were present due to other UMM commitments.

5. **End of Year Business**

- a. Summer Appeals Group (3 needed), the time commitment occurs in the first full week in July, and consists of reading appeals and making appeal decisions.
 - Leslie Meek - yes
 - Alyssa Pirinelli - maybe
 - Merc Chasman - maybe
 - Brenda Boever - maybe
 - Jennifer Goodnough - back up
 - Ray Schultz - back up
- b. Summer Academic Integrity hearings, if needed
 - Barry McQuarrie will be around most of the summer except in June. It was noted that there are usually faculty around in the summer that the committee can call upon to serve. It would be best to get a list of students who will be around during the summer. Michelle Schamp stated she could provide a list of students that will be on campus this summer, but it was noted that if they are not SC members they will need to be approved by the current SC student members.
- c. Summer petitions hearings, if needed, SC approves this group to act on its behalf during summer to act on petitions that registrar cannot approve alone. They report back to the committee in the fall. If petitions are denied, students can appeal to the full committee in the fall.
 - Dan Magner - yes
 - Alyssa Pirinelli – maybe

6. **Reorganization Conversation with Janet Schrunk Ericksen**

Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean Janet Schrunk Ericksen met with SC to discuss the reorganization of the Office of the Registrar (OTR) and One Stop Student Services (OSSS).

How they arrived at the decision for reorganization:

- A. Budget: The budget was the main driving force for the reorganization and layoffs. The decision was made not to hire new people for current openings and cut those on temporary contracts and recent hires. There has never been a sense that offices are overstaffed.
- B. The Dean and the Chancellor looked at OSSS, which had one unfilled position and one temporary contract and thought about what might be possible with OTR staff.
- C. With respect to the Scholastic Committee and its support staff, the Dean and the Chancellor would like to know how much of the committee's work is administrative and how much can be streamlined.

What is happening now:

- A. The Dean has had conversations with University Registrar Sue Van Voorhis about OTR responsibilities being performed under the director of financial aid.
- B. The Dean has had conversations with SC chair Leslie Meek and Judy Korn and agreed that the liaison between the committee and OTR needs to continue. Van Voorhis confirmed that the campus needs the Scholastic Committee.
- C. The Dean and the Chancellor are trying to figure out what the SC position will look like and what responsibilities will go to SC support staff.
- D. John Vollum, from the Twin Cities Office of Change Management, is liaising with the Dean, the Chancellor, Judy Korn, and Jill Beauregard to determine the best way to support student services during the budget crisis.
- E. The reason these two offices were chosen is because the two offices do related work in student services.

Questions and Comments:

- Members noted that SC was against the creation of the One Stop.
- The Chancellor looked at other college models and many had a One Stop or one place where students go to get funneled to the right people.
- Beauregard thinks service to students has improved since the creation of the One Stop.
- Faculty working with first-year students noted that they are often asked where they should go for help and advisers direct them to the One Stop. However, many students return to the adviser because they were given confusing information or students are sent to see someone else.
- Members commented that One Stop acts more like the Office of Financial Aid. Advisees are more comfortable going to the One Stop to ask about financial aid questions. Students with questions regarding advising and registration are sent back to advisers or to OTR so it's not performing as a One Stop. Advisers would like to eliminate and reduce confusion.
- The Chancellor and Dean thought having the offices (OTR and OSSS) closely connected might resolve confusion issues.

- Members noted that financial aid questions are more linear and answers are often dictated by rules and law whereas registration questions are more complicated, often requiring speaking to several different people to figure out a solution.
- The Dean's understanding is that the One Stop was supposed to be the place where students went to get information on topics such as commencement, graduation, financial aid, and registration. Members noted that is not the way it currently works. It was also noted that many students don't know where the One Stop is located.
- Question: Why is there both an Office of Financial Aid and a One Stop? Answer: The Office of Financial Aid does all the processing while One Stop counselors convey the information. One Stop counselors do not do any kind of processing.
- It was commented that the campus does not have the resources to support a true One Stop office, as an equivalent of sorts to the Help Desk, where most student queries start.
- Members noted that one of the reasons SC objected to the creation of a One Stop was because they were worried students would receive the wrong information and ultimately the SC would see more petitions.

Scholastic Committee support/transfer specialist

- A. Will this change affect the composition of SC? Not necessarily, it is currently unknown who the support role will fall to and what percentage of the job description will include SC committee work.
- B. It was not intended that the organization would result in a major loss of OTR duties, but, rather, more dual-purpose roles or combined tasks. The shifts in responsibility so far were the decision of the director of the Office of the Registrar. However, the Registrar believed she had no choice but to remove those duties from the transfer specialist as it poses a conflict of interest.
- C. The proposal was to combine the position's functions with 50% OTR responsibilities and 50% One Stop responsibilities. The position may have to do fewer things to fit it all in.
- D. Concern was expressed about the loss of transfer evaluation responsibilities during new student registration. It is an important service to students. There is a lot of work to do during this time of year that has to be done in a timely manner to ensure incoming students are registered correctly. It is already difficult getting transcripts on time, which leaves a short amount of time for evaluation. Late transcripts mean last minute schedule changes. If Angie Senger is no longer able to do the work then it falls entirely on Korn. Korn affirmed that she would continue to process transcript in a timely manner to provide advisers with the information they need.

Moving forward

The Dean and the Chancellor will continue ongoing conversations with Korn and Beauregard. Korn would like to reorganize in a way that is best for students and programs. The Dean agreed

and is willing to admit the proposed reorganization was a mistake if they find out it doesn't work. The Dean noted that the restructure is not set in stone. The goal is to find a way to make things work.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Senger

Addendum One: [Financial Aid Data](#)