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Annual Report For Scholastic Committee (SC) 2012-2013

August 31, 2013

This document does not provide info on all topics which appeared on the agenda. For the complete record of committee activity please refer to the minutes posted online.

1. Prior Learning Discussions (September 4, 2012; September 12, 2012; October 23, 2012; February 5, 2013)

IS 3893 and 3896

- SC reviewed two petitions requesting IS 3893 and 3896 – Prior Learning Directed Study and Prior Learning Internship. One was sent back to the faculty/student for clarification and more information but was never resubmitted. The other was approved.
- SC reviewed the history of IS 3893 and 3896 and debated the merits of offering such UMM credit bearing opportunities.
- Ultimately SC conveyed a recommendation to the Dean that his office, having more experience with directed studies and internship approval, do all step of IS 3893 and 3896 approvals. SC would like to be kept updated on the issue since review of prior learning is part of its charge. SC also recommended that Curriculum Committee give IS 3893 and 3896 a through review. The Scholastic Committee is removing itself from the approval process for Prior Learning Internships and Directed Studies for a three-year period. After three years, the process will be reassessed. Behind the scenes, the process for Prior Learning Directed Studies and Internships will need to be updated.
- Clear communication of these options to students should be done.
- The Scholastic Committee will no longer review and approve petitions for future Prior Learning Directed Studies and Internships prior to the student submitting the form to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Deans approval. (March 5, 2013)

Lifetime Fitness (September 12, 2012)

The transfer evaluation coordinator will review historical articulations and evaluate future courses in an effort to be consistent with the purpose of lifetime fitness skills. Whether a course transfers as a SSA 12XX will be based on a current definition of higher education lifetime fitness skills (regardless of whether UMM currently or historically has a course covering the skill): college-level courses that combine instruction and practice of a sport or physical activity that can be sustained throughout life as a means of maintaining physical health. (Adapted from the National Association for Sport and Physical Education website) Students transferring a skills course receive 0.5 credits (regardless of the number of credits the course was worth at the previous institution). Each skills course can be repeated for up to 1 credit.* There is a 4-credit max on the number of skills courses that can count in the 120 required for a degree.

MOOC (October 9, 2012; January 15, 2013; April 2, 2013; April 30, 2013)

- SC wants to be forward thinking about MOOCs and not reactionary.
- How do special exams for proficiently and credit fit with this?
- Summer group (Barry McQuarrie, Nic McPhee, Judy Korn, Jennifer Goodnough) will meet to discuss a conservative approach and language for the website. One main issue is how to evaluate gen ed for this prior learning – petition on spirit of the requirement?

Big Umbrella of Prior Learning (February 5, 2013)

Judy Korn attended three conferences in fall 2012: the Minnesota Transfer Specialist Conference in Minneapolis; the College Source Transfer Articulation Workshop in Cincinnati, Ohio; and the Upper Midwest Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers and Wisconsin Association

of College Registrars and Admissions Officers Joint Conference in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. She did a presentation outlining a wide range of prior learning aspects and options.

2. Report to Committee on Summer 2012 Action (September 12, 2012)

- The Student Scholastic Standing Committee (SSSC) approved 6 appeals of the 13 that were submitted.

3. Catalog Update (October 26, 2012)

- Most updating was editorial or for clarity and done by the chair and executive staff.
- Extracurricular events (clarity) High school preparation (update) Returning students (clarity, align with policy) Regulations (consistency) Academic Dishonesty (clarity) Reference to SCEP (redundancy) Repeating a course (consistency) Exam for credit (clarity) – From Office of the Registrar Update IB (clarity) Probation/Suspension (clarity) Exemptions from Regulations (clarity) Integrity (consistency) IC exemption (clarity, consistency) Residency (clarity)

4. Review of Probation and Suspension (September 26, 2012)

- As usual there was much discussion at the annual review of PB and P3 data. Full report is available at the SC website. One point of note is that it was observed that there was a clear gender difference in the data. SC requested a breakdown of incoming student data by gender from admissions.
- SC reviewed wording of letters received by students and updated them. (October 30, 2012 and November 27, 2012)

5. Review of Admission Data (November 20, 2012)

- As usual there was much discussion at the annual review of Admissions data. Full report is available at the SC website.

6. Delegation to Executive Group (September 12, 2012)

Once again the committee delegated certain petitions to be acted on executively. Students may still appeal to the full committee if the petition is denied.

- add/withdraw from a course after the deadline due to system error, if documented in PeopleSoft -registrar
- waive up to two credits of the GER 60 credit requirement when transfer credit is involved-SC executive staff
- waive the 30 credit senior year residency requirement when $\frac{3}{4}$ of the credits for the major and for general education were completed at UMM-SC executive staff
- waive ArtP for native dances publicly performed by American Indians-SC executive staff
- cancel/adds to change sections or correct sequence placement -registrar
- approve late registration in Th 1060/1070 (play performance/crew)-registrar
- waive FL and IP for non-native speakers of English-SC executive staff

7. Policy on Repeating a course (October 9, 2012)

- In general students may only repeat a course once and this has been policy for awhile. The system will only now begin to be able to prevent a third registration. Students may petition to repeat a third time. These petitions will be acted on by the Registrar with the student option to bring the petition to the full committee if denied.

- SC discussed what types of scenarios could result in a student being allowed to take a course a third time.

8. Contract Tracking (October 9, 2012)

Since contracts are being issued to ALL students returning from suspension beginning in Summer 2010, compliance with the contract was tracked for the academic year. The most recent results:

Fall 11, 8 contracts

1 met contract, graduated

1 did not return

1 met contract, did not enroll in Spring 2012 (CUME GPAs 2.952)

2 met contract, enrolled Fall 2012 (CUME GPAs 2.248, 2.28)

3 failed to meet contract, returned to P3

Spring 12, 3 contracts

2 met contract, enrolled Fall 2012 (CUME GPAs 1.7, 1.946)

1 failed to meet contract, returned to P3

9. Petitions

- Petition to allow a student to grade basis change after the 10-day essential deadline. The petition was denied.
- Petition to waive three credits of the last 15 credits required for UMM residency. The petition was approved.
- Petition to grant Historical Perspective (HIST) requirement. The petition was denied.
- Petition to waive International Perspectives (IP) requirement. The petition was approved.
- Petition to change grade basis from A-F to AUD for one course was approved contingent upon the receipt of medical documentation.
- Petition to fulfill the Fine Arts (FA) general education requirement by combining three, four-credit music courses with different designators. The petition was approved.
- Petition to request to fulfill the Humanities (HUM) general education requirement by using a four-credit Morris course that carries an ARTP designation. The petition was denied.
- Petition to fulfill the science general education requirement with two science courses without labs. The petition was approved.

10. Readmission, Leave of Absence etc (October 30, 2012; November 13, 2012)

- SC reviewed processes for readmission in an attempt to streamline the process for student who are returning to UMM after leaving in good academic standing.
- UMM's practice is not consistent with policy but will not be changed at this time.

11. ESL scores, SUFE student data (November 13, 2012; February 12, 2013; February 19, 2013)

Discussion of the low IELTS score requirement has been going on at SC for several years. Pilar Eble presented the most recent data to the committee and provided an update on current services and programs available to the international students at UMM.

Committee members noticed the data reflects a substantial number of SUFE students transferring from Morris. It was noted that these numbers do not count in Morris retention/graduation counts because they are considered Advanced Standing students upon admission not New High School.

SC voted to raise the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score for admission to 6.5, the equivalent of the longstanding Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 79. There is value in saying what should happen even if Morris does not have the resources or opportunity to make it happen at this time. (February 19, 2013)

Points to guide future discussions:

- Students who earn a 5.5 IETL score must enroll in STELLAR
- Provide Pederson with the resources necessary to administer ESL placement exams when students arrive
- Students would enroll in Fundamentals of Writing or Writing for the Liberal Arts based on placement exam
- Extend orientation
- Finding resources for a second semester of ESL coursework should be considered
- ESL writing room resources
- SUFE contract should not be renegotiated with the 5.5 IETL score
- Assistance from the Twin Cities China Center at key moments in students Morris careers
- Advisers need the results of placement testing

12. IC Petition Process (November 27, 2012; March 26, 2013)

- SC was asked to clarify the petition process for student who have not completed their IC requirement after two attempts.
- The IC Petition procedure is cumbersome. The process is intentionally cumbersome to deter students from dropping IC.

13. WLA – English 1601 and Gen Ed of Writing for the Liberal Arts (January 15, 2013 March 26, 2013 April 2, 2013)

- SC decided Minnesota Transfer Curriculum satisfies all general education requirements including WLA, except for Foreign Language, which is actually a degree requirement.
- A source of confusion has been the distinction between a course and gen ed requirement. They are not the same and waivers/substitutions are handled differently. The English discipline has control over what transfer courses will substitute for English 1601. The SC has control of what transfer courses meet the gen ed requirement of WLA.
- The Chair and Judy Korn met with the English faculty to discuss the distinction between ENGL 1601 and the WLA general education requirement. The English faculty stated that no courses will substitute for ENGL 1601. This statement will protect students from losing transfer credits. In the event that a student enrolled in ENGL 1601 and later his/her transfer course was deemed a substitute for ENGL 1601, the student would lose the transfer credits. Korn noted that even though the English faculty has stated that no courses will substitute for ENGL 1601, per the catalog, students are entitled to an evaluation of their transfer courses.

14. FL (January 15, 2013 and January 22, 2013)

- A FL exemption will be granted to students who successfully complete an upper level (2000 or above) language course.

- Brigham Young University (BYU) foreign language exams have been in use for Spanish, German, and French placement and proficiency exams for one academic year. Through the same contract, Morris has access to also provide Russian, Chinese, and English as a Second Language proficiency exams. In addition, BYU is a provider of paper exams for numerous languages including those we sometimes encounter at Morris, for example Norwegian, Hmong, Japanese. The SC noted the approval of all parties and confirms the plan to use BYU language exams as our first means of providing proficiency exams. If the number of students using these resources remains steady at about five per year, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academics will provide the funding for the extra exams that will range between < \$5 and \$50.

15. National Student Exchange (January 22, 2013)

- The SC discussed the NSE in regard to residency. Per the Scholastic Committee web page, Exceptions to 15 of the last 30 credits at UMM will be granted for experience such as National Student Exchange, Study Abroad, etc. This is not a University of Minnesota policy. The SC affirmed the exception and noted that a formal petition should not be necessary for students who do not meet this requirement because of NSE plans. All other requirements in the residency policy must be met, providing protection for the integrity of the degree. Advisers and NSE staff must be aware of the residency policy.

16. Academic Integrity (March 5, 2013 April 9, 2013)

After a large number of AI hearings for repeat offenses, the SC heard from the CAI some recommendations.

- It should be confirmed that the new Academic Writing for Liberal Arts curriculum includes a clearly stated plagiarism component. This was later confirmed (April 30, 2013)
- For English as a Second Language students, the translator perhaps should be opt out rather than opt in because the language of violation hearings can be very complicated.
- The first letter a student receives from the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs may be too dense. For ESL students, perhaps the letter should be translated into a students first language.
- In the near future, faculty should receive a letter reminding them of the process, perhaps after the SC discusses the Academic Integrity grid. Each faculty member determines if a students actions warrant reporting to the Academic Integrity Committee.
- A second violation is significant, yet it is not always clear to either students or faculty that the first violation is essentially earning a student probation and the second violation could lead to suspension. Can we be clearer in the letter for first violations? Should we consider formally making all first violations have the sanction probation? Advisers are not informed when an advisee has received a first violation.
- Sanctions are often framed around is this going to happen again? instead of being only punitive.
- An easy way to improve the process would be to require that the student acknowledge that he/she received the letter, which is sent by both email and snail mail.

Sandy Olson-Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Melody Veenendaal, program specialist for student affairs, presented a report on Academic Integrity (AI) at Morris. Please see the April 9, 2013 minutes for the full discussion.

A grid, based off one provided by UMTC, was created to help guide faculty who encounter Academic Integrity issues. This will be made available on the SC website.

17. Retention (April 16, 2013 April 23, 2013)

- SC was given a report Retaining of Students by Jennifer Zych Herrmann, retention coordinator. The committee reviewed institutional retention goals set in the strategic plan as well as retention rates for fall 2009 through fall 2012