

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Scholastic Committee

Campus Governance

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9-30-2021

### Scholastic minutes 09/30/2021

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**Scholastic Committee**  
**2021-22 Academic Year**  
**Thursday, September 30, 2021, Zoom**  
**Meeting Three - Minutes**

Present: Dennis Stewart (Chair), Jason Ramey, Joseph Beaver, Jehosuah Kuusisto, Alyssa Pirinelli, Julie Eckerle, Anika Eaves, Marcus Muller, Jessica Larson, Jessica Porwoll, Lauren Combellick, Maureen Zeleny, Naeem Williams

Minute-Taker: Lauren Combellick

1. Approval of Previous Minutes:

- a. 9/16/21
  - i. Minutes approved unanimously.
- b. [4/29/21](#), [4/14/21](#), [3/4/21](#)
  - i. Minutes approved unanimously.

2. Chair Report

- a. The chair reported that he emailed Dean Ng about the issue of replacing Brenda Boever's responsibilities as advocate for students filing petitions with this committee. Dean Ng responded that the position would not be replaced at this time.

Marcus Muller also met with Dean Ng regarding this issue. Support can still be provided to the student when writing petitions, but it's unclear which office/support person is best suited for this role. It was suggested that the Student Success Center (SSC) may be able to fill this role, as they already provide similar support when a student is filing a Dean's petition. It was noted that it will be important to look at the overall merit of the request being made in the petition and not the level of writing, as some students may be using more resources than others in the process.

The chair reported that the Chancellor and Dean want to simplify the process for petitioning. It was noted that the process should be more transparent to everyone including students, faculty, and staff.

3. SCEP Report

- a. Jessica Larson had no report at this time, and won't until after their October 13, 2021 meeting.

4. Review of the petition forms

- a. Academic Policy Petition
  - i. Area A (majority of petitions)
    - 1. Used for many different petitions including, but not limited to:
      - a. Late enrollment
      - b. Transfer credit request
      - c. Missed deadline to apply for graduation
      - d. Major/minor exceptions
    - 2. Has a spot for adviser/faculty to sign in support, although the majority submitted do not include a signature. Marcus noted that it is helpful when a petition is signed.

- ii. Area B
  - 1. Used when a student wants to use their one-time late withdrawal on or before the last day of classes for the term.
- iii. Area C
  - 1. Used to petition to enroll in more than the maximum number of credits allowed within a term.
- iv. There was concern about how students know who to ask if they have questions about these petitions. If the Office of the Registrar gets the petition first and they feel it would benefit the student to talk with the SSC or One Stop, they will direct the student to the appropriate place. One Stop typically gets questions early on in this process and will help students determine what petition needs to be filed for their individual situation.
- v. Some possible changes to the form were suggested:
  - 1. The box asking for the student's email address is already populated with @morris.umn.edu and not all students have the morris domain.
  - 2. Adding more context to the form to aid in the student's ability to complete.
    - a. It may be easier to add more context to the One Stop website, as there is more room there than on the form. The Scholastic Committee website does provide more context, but is not as easily accessible to students.
- b. Dean's Petition
  - i. Originally used to retroactively withdraw from every class taken in a previous semester. Now is more flexible and can be used for a retroactive grade change or withdrawal from one or more courses. Supporting documentation is required.

## 5. Transfer Office

- a. If we were to invite John Tornes to a committee meeting, what topics would we want discussed?
  - i. Introductions and asking how this committee can better help transfer students
  - ii. Articulation agreements being set up
  - iii. His strategies for recruiting and retaining transfer students
  - iv. Most common challenges among students that transfer here and those that ultimately decide not to