

Spring 4-30-2013

## Scholastic minutes 04/30/2013

Scholastic Committee

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**Scholastic Committee  
2012-13 Academic Year  
April 30, 2013  
Meeting Twenty-Three Minutes For Approval**

**In attendance:** Jennifer Goodnough (chair), Hilda Ladner, Chad Braegelmann, Judy Korn, Steve Gross, Brenda Boever, Pete Wyckoff, Luciana Ranelli, Ellery Wealot, Jen Zych Herrmann, Jess Larson

**Not in attendance:** Melissa Hernandez, Zach Kroells, Clare Dingley, Kent Blansett, Nic McPhee

**1. Minutes For Review**

April 9, 2013 minutes approved with Sandy Olson-Loy's minor suggestions as discussed.  
April 23, 2013 minutes approved

**2. Chair's Report**

Over the summer, Korn will work on updates to the Scholastic Committee website. If committee members have suggestions or identify information that should be included, please let the Chair and Korn know.

Korn will confirm with Ashley Thompson that she is interested in the Morris Student Fellow position in the Office of the Registrar (OTR) for the Scholastic Committee project. A four-year work study student in the OTR, Thompson is an excellent candidate for this position because of her experience with FERPA, policies, and procedures.

Roland Guyotte, who has been elected to the SC, has been approached about serving as the vice chair for the Scholastic Committee during the 2013-14 academic year and as the chair during the 2014-15 academic year. He has experience serving in these roles.

The Chair and 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. Boever, advising coordinator, shared that WLA and ENGL 1601 were the "number one" topics for questions during the first new student registration day. Students should be encouraged to take ENGL 1601. A student cannot have enough writing experience. Summer advising sheets should be updated. The Chair has confirmed that academic integrity topics are included in the new ENGL 1601 course.

The number of spring semester Intellectual Community (IC) courses will decrease. Students will have two fall semester opportunities to complete the IC general education requirement.

The SC international program subcommittee, with the assignment to create a recommendations document to be sent to Dean Finzel and Chancellor Johnson, plans to soon complete its task. Based on the SC presentation by Pilar Eble, and Nancy Pederson, International Students Program, the subcommittee will advocate, on behalf of the SC, for more support for international students.

**3. SCEP Report**

McPhee, SCEP representative, was ill. He shared Twin Cities campus assessment information with the committee via email. The Academic Program Review Guiding Principles draft was shared with SCEP by Bob McMaster, vice provost for undergraduate education. It is unclear if the document and the procedure will have an impact on Morris. McPhee will also provide this information to Dean Finzel. Morris should not have to do extra assessment in addition to the work that is already done on this campus.

SCEP also reviewed Morris's academic calendar, which will be on the next Senate agenda.

**4. Petition 1215**

The petition, based upon meeting the spirit of the requirement, was a request to fulfill the Humanities (HUM) general education requirement by using a four-credit Morris course that carries an ARTP designation. Motion to approve. Second. No discussion. In favor: none. Opposed: nine. Abstaining: one. Petition denied.

#### **Petition #1216**

Based upon institutional responsibility, the petition requested fulfilling the science general education requirement with two science courses without labs. Motion to approve. Second. No discussion. In favor: nine. Opposed: none. Abstaining: one. Petition approved.

#### **6. MOOC update**

Morris has received its first request for transfer credits to be granted from a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). The student is interested in taking a Calculus I course through Pennsylvania State University. The course has been reviewed for credit by the American Council on Education (ACE). ACE provides recommendations for military credits, and recently reviewed five MOOC courses for credit, including the Calculus I courses at Penn State. Korn consulted the Twin Cities campus, the Chair, and the Registrar. She plans to tell the student that she may take the MOOC Calculus I courses, but to seek credit for the course through CLEP or a special examination administered through the Morris Math Discipline. While MOOC conversations are occurring throughout the University of Minnesota, no firm recommendations or policies are in place at this point. A summer committee, comprised of Korn, Goodnough, and Professor Barry McQuarrie, former SC member, will meet to discuss the topic of credits from MOOC courses.

General education requirements were briefly discussed in relationship to MOOCs, which do not independently carry credits. A general education requirement can be fulfilled without credits. For example, noncredit American Indian traditional dance performance has been accepted to fulfill the ARTP requirement based on interaction between instructor and student.

#### **7. Summer Committees**

While the summer appeals group is not a Scholastic Committee subcommittee, it does have representation on the committee because of its role in suspension. Other representation includes, as possible with summer calendars, advisers, academic alert, policy experience, extracurricular activities, division representation, academic assistance, and previous appeals experience. To date, the committee members are Goodnough, Herrmann, Braegelmann, Larson, and Korn. Professor Leslie Meek, Division of the Social Sciences chair, has also been invited to serve on the committee.

As of today, there are no Academic Integrity appeals to be heard.

The SC prefers that summer student petitions be heard in the fall when the committee resumes meeting, but if a timely decision is needed, the following procedure will be followed. Goodnough and Korn will review the petition. If they are in agreement with their decisions, they will act on the petition. If they are not in agreement, McPhee as SCEP representative has offered to serve as a “Joe-Biden-like” tie breaker in regard to petition action. Students may appeal to the entire committee in the fall.

#### **8. Transcript/Grading Policy review [policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/GRADINGTRANSCRIPTS.html](http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/GRADINGTRANSCRIPTS.html)**

The question was asked why Duluth has its own policies. Duluth does not have representation on the University of Minnesota Senate. Crookston was added in 2009, when it determined that all the policies would fittingly serve the Crookston campus.

The committee discussed SN versus A-F grading and the impact on the D grade. In the A-F system, the D is worthy of credit. In the SN system, an S is only granted if the student earns a C- or better, so the D is not worthy of credit. It was noted that students choose to use the SN system, so not earning credit for D work is part of the SN choice. TC policy does not accept D credits, so classes that are only offered SN must guarantee that the S is higher than a D. A question was asked about the number of SN credits allowed for the Morris degree. The Chair shared that she asked this question of the Registrar, and of the 120 credits, 30 can have a grade of S. The remainder must be A-D. The SC discussed repeating courses noting that Financial Aid may view this topic with a different definition.

The SC reviewed the section on bracketing, the practice of not including a course in the calculation of a student's GPA and not counting the course as satisfying any degree requirements, including electives, because a student has repeated a course. When a student repeats a course, prior attempts are bracketed and only the most recent attempt counts, except for repeatable courses. No college, including Morris, may bracket the courses of another college for any reason other than course repetition. An F may not be bracketed with an N. A University course may not be bracketed with a course taken at a nonUniversity of Minnesota institution.

SC has heard petitions to “bracket” Morris courses when a course has been repeated at another University campus. While we speak of transfer courses as substitutes for Morris courses, in this case, the course could be considered an exact equivalent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy R. Korn, Executive Staff