

[In these minutes: OSCAI Updates and survey]

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY COMMITTEE (SAIC)

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the view of, nor are they binding on the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Dana Davis (Chair), Kimberly Clarke, Bradley Conley, Sharon Dzik, Jennifer Goodnough, Kacey Gregerson, Laura Coffin Koch, Corrie Marion.

REGRETS: Arthur Erdman, Stacy Ingraham, Susan LoRusso, LeAnn Snow.

GUESTS: Jessica Kuecker Grotjohn.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made of all members present.

2. OSCAI UPDATES

Sharon Dzik said that her office is conducting a survey this fall to get views on scholastic dishonesty. Her office will then use the information to direct messages to faculty and tackle myths that exist. She will speak more about the survey itself later in the meeting.

She also noted that last year the committee spoke about a report based on findings from the McCabe survey that was completed in spring 2012. That report was delayed due to problems with the data set, but issues have now been resolved and the hope is to bring the report to the October meeting for presentation.

Jessica Kuecker Grotjohn then spoke about a project she is doing to speak to contacts in each college's student services office, who are copied on emails to students, to hear what they do with this information, if it is helpful, what is the best way to communicate this information, and where do these emails go after they are read. She will bring this information back to the committee, hopefully in February.

Dana Davis then questioned why college contacts, DUGS, or DGS need to know the name of the student in a scholastic dishonesty case, or would course information be sufficient enough to inform the colleges.

Sharon Dzik noted that there are reasons that groups within the college are informed, but agreed that a discussion should be held as to whether the name of the student(s) needs to be included.

Jennifer Goodnough stated that Morris has decided not to inform advisors or division chairs, since all are still full-time faculty members. Instead faculty just review the numbers at the end of the term.

Jessica Kuecker Grotjohn worried about perception if numbers are just reported at the end of the term and show that one class or faculty member had a large number of reports. Outsiders might

see the numbers as a reflection of a course in which much scholastic dishonesty takes place while the reality is that this faculty member is just vigilant and reports all cases.

Sharon Dzik then noted that her office is also considering whether a restorative justice model could be started on campus for dealing with scholastic dishonesty violations. Benefits to this model would be that the accused student would hear from other students and faculty about the harm that is done to them and the community by one student cheating, plagiarizing, etc. and OSCAI might consider changing its record retention policy for students who participate and do not have another violation. This in turn might convince more faculty to file a report as it would not follow a one-time offender after they graduate.

3. REVIEW OF OSCAI SURVEYS FOR FALL 2013

Sharon Dzik then discussed the three surveys that her office will be using to collect data from faculty who have reported, faculty who have not reported, associate deans, department heads/chairs, director of undergraduate studies (DUGS), and director of graduate studies (DGS). She is hoping to start the survey in the next few weeks, with results collected by the end of October. She asked members to highlight any modifications required and from whom the email should be sent. Members offered feedback throughout the surveys and noted that it should be sent from the Provost.

4. DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR 2013-14

Dana Davis noted that other issues for fall semester are the OSCAI annual report, OSCAI survey results, and conclusion of the McCabe survey. Planned discussions will be on a model for restorative justice for scholastic dishonesty and how scholastic dishonesty is included in new student and faculty orientations.

Jennifer Goodnough asked that issues with international students be added to the list. After a high rate of recidivism at Morris among international students, the campus is considering requiring meetings for first-time offenses, translating scholastic dishonesty materials into other languages, and having a translator at hearings be an opt-out rather than an opt-in due to a lower TOEFL score than at the Twin Cities. However, many students transfer within the system and than may have the same issues without anyone knowing.

Sharon Dzik noted that recidivism is the same reason that she changed the OSCAI process to require meetings with first-time international student offenders and it has reduced their numbers. The office's approach has garnered an invitation to speak at an international conference next spring on this topic.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Dana Davis thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate