

SAIC MINUTES

[In these minutes: Review of 2006-07 items and topics for 2007-08]

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY COMMITTEE (SAIC)

MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

[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:

Tom Shield (Chair), Lisa Anderson, Sarah Angerman, Sharon Dzik, Laura Coffin Koch, Randy Moore, Eric Watkins.

REGRETS:

Linda Jones, Amanda Kossak, Micky Trent, Erin West.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Tom Shield welcomed members to the first meeting of the year and explained the purpose of the committee. Members then introduced themselves.

2. 2007-08 AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Shield said that the main focus of the committee last year was to develop a scholastic dishonesty reporting process for Twin Cities undergraduates. The goals of the process were to involve DUGs in the process, address the low number of reports made to OSCAI, and have someone in each department who can assist faculty.

While the process was developed last year and sent to OSCAI for implementation, the committee still needs to be involved in a communication plan for the new process.

Other items for this year are developing similar reporting structures for graduate and professional students.

3. OSCAI UPDATE

Sharon Dzik reminded members that her Assistant Director, Debbie Gettemy, left the University in June. A few weeks later the office secretary also left, which meant that she was handling most of the caseload herself this summer. She was able to hire back her former Associate Director, Meredith McGrath, to help with special projects.

This summer she also conducted a search for a new Assistant Director. Amy Barsness was hired and will start next Monday.

Projects for her office this year will be educating faculty on the new reporting process and continued redesign of the website through the use of focus groups.

4. REVIEW OF SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY ISSUES RELATED TO N GRADE

Tom Shield discussed the handout on 'N' grades for scholastic dishonesty. This is a proposal from the committee to the Educational Policy Committee (SCEP), which is in charge of the University's grading policy. This proposal will also be discussed with the Council of Undergraduate Deans (CUD) if the committee supports the proposal.

A member suggested that one way to increase central reporting might be to only allow an 'immutable F' after a report has been filed with OSCAI.

Tom Shield noted that implementation will be determined by SCEP, but this committee wants to bring the issue forward.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Sharon Dzik noted that the definition of scholastic dishonesty does not include a student submitting the same academic work in two classes, and there is no University policy on this situation. She would like the committee to discuss the topic and provide a recommendation.

She also noted that the annual report from her office should be available at the next meeting for discussion. A related topic is also the public release of the report.

With no further business, Tom Shield thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert

University Senate