

[In these minutes: Updates on remaining business from 2008-09, items for 2009-10]

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY COMMITTEE (SAIC)

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

[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, Sharon Dzik, Jennifer Goodnough, Randy Moore, Eric Watkins.

REGRETS: Kendall King, Laura Coffin Koch.

ABSENT: Sarah Angerman, Dana Davis.

1. OSCAI UPDATE

Sharon Dzik reported that her office has remained busy throughout the summer due to a large number of cases. She said that her office's annual report will be presented to CUE on October 15. It appears that the caseload has almost doubled from last year, over 650, due to more off-campus violations, behavioral consultations, and outreach to academic units.

Not related to scholastic dishonesty, but influencing the workload is that her office is present at all football games to administer the Check BAC program. From this week's game, eight students were cited.

She also started working with Indiana University to survey admissions departments at graduate and professional students about the influence of conduct code violations on acceptance. This data will be presented at a national conference in February and used when speaking with faculty on campus.

Her office has started working with a group of representatives from the undergraduate colleges on academic integrity. The goal is to educate these people to know how to handle cases and provide help to instructors within the college.

2. REPORT ON STUDENT DISCIPLINARY BACKGROUND CHECKS

Tom Shield said that the Managing Student Records Policy was revised over the summer to include disciplinary background checks and consulting with the appropriate office on each campus before releasing this information. Once approved, education will be needed to the colleges and departments.

3. REVIEW OF LATEST MCCABE SURVEY

Sharon Dzik said that the University administered a survey from Donald McCabe, an expert on scholastic dishonesty, to faculty and students at the Twin Cities in spring 2004. She asked him if the University could participate again and he agreed. She will need to follow-up with him to receive the survey instrument and with Institutional Research on campus to see when a survey could be administered.

A member said that students tend to report more instances of out-of-class dishonesty while faculty are limited to what occurs in the classroom.

4. UNIVERSITY-WIDE POLICY ON WITHDRAWING FROM CLASS AFTER REPORTED FOR SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

Tom Shield said that the Grading and Transcript Policy includes a withdrawal provision for Morris, but for the Twin Cities, there is no common provision as only CLA has a withdrawal procedure in place.

Members made the following comments:

- Morris faculty ask for advice through the campuses ALERT system
- CLA's policy is harder to implement at this time since not all reports are made immediately
- Faculty reporting is still a limiting factor

The committee agreed that the Morris provision in the Grading and Transcript Policy should be revised to include the Twin Cities. This recommendation should be forwarded to the Educational Policy Committee (SCEP) for approval.

In addition to this policy change, members agreed that faculty need to be educated that they cannot tell a student that he or she cannot attend a class for which the student has paid.

5. UPDATE ON AMENDMENT TO POLICY - TEACHING AND LEARNING: INSTRUCTOR AND UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

The committee agreed to forward the change to SCEP for approval with the units names for Morris and Rochester amended as follows:

Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities: Twin Cities, Morris, Rochester

F. Responsibility to Report Scholastic Dishonesty

Instructors are obligated to report ~~suspected~~ scholastic dishonesty to their departments and to the appropriate office on campus ~~responsible for investigating and adjudicating~~

~~incidents of scholastic dishonesty~~ (on the Twin Cities campus, the Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity; at Morris, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; at Rochester, the Office of Student Affairs).

6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR 2009-10

Members made the following list of items for discussion this year:

- Professional/graduate school admissions survey
- McCabe Survey
- Better communication to faculty regarding reporting such as sharing teachable moments or best practices through short videos
- How professional schools handle scholastic dishonesty violations
- Updating the OSCAI website
- Getting information out at events that faculty attend, such as the Morse-Alumni Teaching Awards events

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Tom Shield said that the Senate committee chairs are meeting next week and he cannot attend. He asked if another member would be willing. Lisa Anderson said that she would check her schedule.

A member then said that the new syllabi policy states that the Provost's Office is supposed to provide a list of resources, but no one can find this information on the web. Has it been created?

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

Becky Hippert
University Senate