

Minutes

English Department Meeting
Dr. Maria J. Cahill, Chair
November 9, 2012 at 1:30 p.m.

	Present	Absent	Excused		Present	Absent	Excused
Faculty				Staff			
Amanda Lehrian							
Jason Calabrese	x						
Maria Cahill	x						
Amy Trogan	x			Adjunct Faculty			
Jill Hummel	x			Marybeth Vaughan			
Sara Dustin	x						
Keith Hunter	x						
Thomas Wayne	x						
Marty Ambrose	x						
Ellie Bunting			x	Guests			
Natala Orobello	x						
John Pelot	x						
Rebecca Harris	x						
Jim Langlas	x						
David Luther	x						

McGraw-Hill Update: Cortney is prepared to conduct group workshops, but recommended one-on-one with faculty, both full-time and adjunct. Since most of us have started working with Connect, it might more effectively take us to the next level if we work one-on-one. Faculty responded positively to one-on-one workshops. Individual professors are free to contact Cortney and schedule their appointments.

Norton – New edition vs. Customization: Faculty discussed that the Norton will only be available in the new edition as of Fall 2013. Fortunately, Norton has the longest run on each edition (usually 4 years). Our rep recommended, if we want to keep the current edition longer, to customize with a cover photo. However, after discussion, the faculty present recommended that the chair survey the adjunct faculty who primarily use the text. Update: the chair surveyed adjunct faculty who were split. The Norton rep then advised that, in actuality, Norton will not be able to hold enough books in reserve, even with customization. Therefore, ESC will move forward with the new edition in the fall. That said, there is NO cost increase and the revised text has more digital/media information for students.

Writing Center – Professor Ambrose provided the update for the department and indicated that our department is definitely achieving a higher level of participation (with the center) at this time. Things are going well for the writing center, and Professor Ambrose has offered additional tutoring for some of the assistants. The response from the tutors has been positive. Professor Ambrose will offer additional sessions for assistants in the future. Also, she discussed the writing center newsletter. We can have our events publicized in this monthly newsletter, as well as posted on the writing center’s facebook.

Rose Kosche—Professor Ambrose discussed the upcoming Rose Kosche award. Information about the award will be announced shortly, with a deadline of February 1st for submissions in short fiction, drama, and poetry. Winners will be included in our Lee Campus literary magazine, *Illuminations*.

Assessment Updates: Briefly, Dr. Trogan reviewed the ENC 1102 assessment process this year. Mr. Coughlin will do a random selection of participants. The assessment committee will use the previous rubric, after some minor edits.

Writing Degree: In order for us to move forward with this objective, we need to develop an upper-level technical writing course. In total, two courses need to be developed. The grant for this program is due in July. The new courses need to go to Curriculum by January. We discussed whether or not this was a reasonable goal.

Unit Plan – The faculty reviewed the unit plan and made suggestions. (Update: The unit plan was modified per faculty suggestions and submitted to Dr. Dennison by November 14th .)

Textbook Adoption: Dr. Cahill announced that the course materials committee is creating an online form. The state wants professors to be legally bound to use the textbooks our students purchase, as well as the ancillaries. Our department is secure in this area. That said, the bookstore will now sell our texts and ancillaries separate as well as bound. We will need to make sure our students know what to purchase.

Bookstore Update: The Follett contract is almost over. The college is reviewing Follet’s performance as well as considering Barnes and Noble.

Campus Updates

Charlotte – Professor Pelot discussed Charlotte’s FLAC event/writer.

Lee – Dr. Cahill briefly reviewed Edison Writes’ six weeks of special writing events.

Next meeting: January during our professional days. We will have three meetings next semester: January, February and April.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria J. Cahill