

Minutes

Academic Success Department Meeting

December 12, 2014

H 218

 11:30 p.m.

**Attendance:** Karen Maguire, Wanda Day, Robert Olancin, Duke Dipofi, Troy Tucker, Martin Tawil, Heather Olson, Eileen DeLuca, Whitney Rhyne, Mary Ellen Schultz, Scott VanSelow, Kelley Newhouse, and Kathy Clark.

1. **Successes and Accomplishments:**

Dr. Tawil noted that the writing level of critical thinking journal essays and the final essays were better this semester than in past semesters. Faculty from other departments noticed this improvement as well. This may be attributed to the new student population required to take the SLS 1515 course. Scott mentioned that the student focus groups he conducted were very positive about the course. Heather indicated that many students said they made friends in the class because the class was so engaging. Dr. Deluca mentioned that she was impressed by the “Social Justice” presentations given by students in her Honors Affiliate section. She felt that the students learned a great deal from the text and other source materials. She would like to use some of the same strategies in non-Honors Affiliate sections.

1. **Updates:**

**Spring Schedule**: Pending enrollment data, adjustments to the schedule will be made in January. Dr. Clark mentioned the room change process and that rooms are currently assigned according to the course preferences, not individual instructor preferences.

**Moving:** Dr. DeLuca provided an update and noted that most offices and services will not move until the end of the Spring semester. Scott will be moving into his new office (O206) over the winter break.

**REA –** A new textbook has been adopted for the spring. Results of the pre-post test showed student improvement. The reading faculty are changing to Townsend Press pre/post online beginning in the spring. Reading faculty will work with Crystal and Joe to have the pre-post data collected and analyzed.

**EAP-** Robert and Troy discussed the successful EAP completion ceremony attended by around 60 EAP students! There were many proud students and it was a wonderful evening.

**QEP-** The SLS 1515 course will be utilizing a new textbook for the spring. Dr. Tawil spoke about the MSSL (student success lab). During the spring the textbook committee can determine if we want to adopt the online materials for the lab. Dr. Tawil and Frieda Miller have been using the materials this semester. Whitney indicated that 15 classes raised money for Unicef’s Eliminate Project and got to pie their peer architect. The January newsletter will feature Mary Ellen Schultz. Dr. Clark reported that a representative from SmarterMeasure contacted her and said that the 3,000,000 student who completed the SmarterMeasure test was a student on the Collier Campus. Pictures were taken and submitted to the college marketing team.

The faculty discussed the use of technology in the course. The students need further training and engagement in technology and there is an additional technology need for assessment purposes. Scott will send suggestions about devices such as tablets that can be used by students in the course. The college will possibly pilot the use of the devices in one section in an upcoming semester.

The QEP assessment committee finalized the 2013-2014 Annual Report. The report will be posted to college’s webpage. A reader-friendly summary document will be distributed at the President’s college-wide address in February. The report will also be posted on the QEP assessment page. One of the many findings in the report was there was a positive relationship between SLS enrollment and term-to-term retention!

1. Due dates and other information items:

Syllabus and office hours are due Jan. 6.

Portfolios are due Feb. 9 for faculty undergoing evaluation.

Class cancellations process – faculty are to contact students through email and/or Canvas and must notify Grace, Sherolyn, Renee and/or Kathy.

The Spring Critical Thinking in Careers Series schedule was announced and distributed.

The Community of Practice dates for spring was announced: Jan. 29, Feb. 18 and March 26. The meetings will be held from 2:30-3:30.Rooms TBA

**Spring 2015 Department meeting dates/time**:

All meetings this spring will be from 2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 13, and April 10

Location: Thomas Edison I-122, Collier G-109, Charlotte J-118, Hendry/Glades A 106

Minutes submitted by Dr. Kathy Clark