

English Department Meeting, February 8, 2013

In attendance: Maria Cahill, Thomas Wayne, Scott Ortolano, Natala Orbello, Rebecca Harris, Jim Langlas, John Pelot, Jill Hummel, Marty Ambrose, Ellie Bunting, Amy Trogan, Jason Calabrese. **Absent:** Keith Hunter, Amanda Lehrian, Ihasha Horn, Sara Dustin, David Luther.

Writing Center: Cynthia Lonzano, Writing Center Instructional Assistant, gave the department an update on the Writing Center. She stressed the increase in visits last semester and the need for a new Writing Center hire. She encouraged faculty to provide names of potential tutors. Professor Ambrose will be providing tutor training on March 1st. Cynthia also provided the dates of upcoming MLA workshops. Cynthia ended her presentation by explaining the Writing Center Book Club and asking faculty to provide the Writing Center with assignment sheets. Professor Ambrose added to the Writing Center update by reminding faculty that the Writing Center will be hosting brown bag events. She also indicated that the Writing Center will advertise our events, such as FLAC presentations.

Endowment Chair: Currently, endowment chair funds are \$3000 per academic year. In the recent past, this money has funded the WPA position and the Writing Center Liaison position. Dr. Cahill and Professor Ambrose suggested dividing the money into three equal amounts of \$1000. One portion would be given to the Writing Center liaison and another would be given to the English Department Assessment Chair. The last portion would be awarded to a faculty member who applies for it by proposing an original project. The department was in agreement. Tentatively, projects will be proposed at the end of the academic year and go into effect the following fall. Dr. Cahill and Professor Ambrose will update faculty about proposals in the April meeting.

Assessment: Dr. Trogan updated the committee on the English Department assessment project. The sub-committee has agreed to review artifacts through electronic distribution. The next step is norming, which should take place within the next two weeks. After that, the artifacts will be distributed to the scoring team.

Textbook/COP Update: It has not been confirmed, but Dr. Cahill was informed that legal counsel will now have the last word regarding textbooks. The rationale behind this decision seems to be state statutes. Dr. Cahill also stated that the assessment of the Edison Bookstore was postponed to next fall. She also indicated that textbooks may be entered into a new system that would be updated by faculty. The system may work through the current Banner system. Dr. Cahill concluded this update by informing us that she will create a survey monkey questionnaire to determine how faculty members are feeling about the new texts.

GEN ED update: Although the news has been bleak, many feel that the GLITCH proposal will be accepted and the GEN ED requirements will remain the same.

AA Tracks: Dr. Rath has informed all of the Arts and Science departments that our division has been charged with the creation of AA tracks. We need to develop a Communications track for the Edison State College catalog. Professor Ortolano is currently working on this project with Dr. Cahill. He will circulate the proposal to the department once it is ready.

English BA: Dr. Cahill updated the department on the status of creating an English BA program. The first step in the process is developing the guidelines for the programs. This will include the creation of upper level courses. The department will continue moving forward on this project.

Open House on Lee Campus: Dr. Cahill discussed the Open House Event on Lee, February 18th; she asked for volunteers.

Syllabi: The CLAS requirement needs to be removed from the learning outcomes. We will be submitting an informational item at the next Curriculum meeting that will change the wording of one of our learning outcomes in both ENC1101 and ENC1102. We accepted the wording that Professor Ambrose proposed. We also decided it was time to review all Composition syllabi. It was decided to review the syllabi by conducting a workshop after the April department meeting. The general education competencies are going to be the focus point of the review so Professor Ambrose suggested that the rubric be present at the workshop.

ENC 1102: Discussion ensued regarding whether or not to make the handbook our agreed upon text or to make the readers we currently use our agreed upon text. In April, we will look at ENC 1102 and hopefully draw further conclusions.

Rose Kosche: Professor Ambrose provided an update on the writing contest. She indicated that participation was down this year. Also, it was decided that there would be two awards (poetry and fiction) of \$500 each since there were no drama submissions.

Illuminations/Research Award: Dr. Cahill indicated that the publication of *Illuminations* would be taking up much of the efforts of the Edison Writes committee. Dr. Cahill said that a *Illuminations* reception will be held at the end of the semester. The Rose Kosche winners will be recognized at that time. Dr. Cahill also suggested that we go forward with the Research Essay Award. Discussion ensued. Everyone wants to have one, but it still needs to be organized. Volunteers?

Charlotte/Peace River/FLAC: Professor Pelot presented some background information regarding the Florida Language Arts Coalition. He also indicated that Charlotte will be

hosting a reading by Dr. Amina Gautier on February 21st. Dr. Cahill asked for a volunteer to head up the Lee portion of FLAC next year.

VPAA: Professor Ambrose provided an update on the VPAA selection. The selection committee has submitted three strong candidates. We hope to have someone in that position by the end of February. Professor Ambrose also provided a handout with grant information and discussed grants sponsored by NEA.

Online: Dr. Cahill indicated that Comp I online will be revised. Professors Bunting, Hunter, and Harris will make that a project for spring. The course will be revised in time for fall. Professor Ambrose and Dr. Cahill will also review and possibly revise some of our other online courses. If anyone else is interested in assisting, please contact Dr. Cahill

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Gratefully submitted,

Amy Trogan and Maria Cahill