Minutes

English Department Meeting

8 December 2017

1:00PM-2:20PM

Lee: U-102, Collier: G-109, Charlotte: O-118, Hendry/Glades: A-106

In Attendance: Martha Ambrose, Scott Ortolano, Amy Trogan, Rebecca Harris, Jill Hummel, Ihasha Horn, Ellie Bunting, Shawn Moore, Sara Dustin, Natala Orobello, Michael Joy, Thomas Mohundro, Jeremy Pilarski

Excused: John Pelot, Jim Langlas, Jason Calabrese, Judy Van Gaalen

Absent: Keith Hunter, Thomas Wayne, David Luther, Jennifer Grove

1. Approval of October Minutes
   1. Fully approved
2. Spring Schedule + Scheduling Updates (Discussion)
   1. Please add technology policy to syllabus outlines if there is any sort of ban in effect for laptops and/or cell phones
      1. Prof. Ambrose’s master teacher series on using cellphones is suggested as a potential resource.
   2. LIT 2000 courses are full across the board and there is an increased demand for the course. We need to consider ways to offer more of these sections in the future to meet the rising demand.
   3. ENC 0022 has not been making as consistently, and it is difficult to get adjuncts to teach it because of the credits. It is four credits instead of three, which alters the number of classes that an adjunct can teach.
      1. Potential solutions:
         1. Develop a teaching rotation to make sure it is available.
         2. Alter how students are channeled into the class—currently by their PERT scores.
         3. Prof. Bunting suggests an A term/B term set up if the students can be kept in both courses.
         4. Prof. Ambrose suggests creating a stronger support system for students who need developmental work so that those who proceed directly into Comp I can fall back upon this expanded support apparatus.
            1. Prof. Ambrose explains that creating a WPA position with one of the two faculty lines that we have coming in would help alleviate the issue.

Seconded by everyone. Dr. Harris notes that this has been something we’ve been asking for, and it would be ideal.

Prof. Ambrose will write up a description for a Writing Program Administrator and bring it for us to look at in the January meeting.

This position would also provide an avenue for creating a dialogue between all writing-intensive courses—as standards and practices vary widely by discipline, etc. and having a conversation might be a way of ensuring that students receive the best possible experience.

* + - 1. Dr. Trogan suggests possibly linking SLS and ENC 0022 for students who are underprepared.
      2. Dr. Harris suggests also potentially creating a 4-credit Comp I course
      3. Dr. Ortolano explains that FSU merges these approaches by having a way for students to register for credit with the Writing Center and meet weekly with Tutors.
         1. Link to FSU’s Writing Center’s page about registering for credit with the Writing Center: <https://wr.english.fsu.edu/Reading-Writing-Center/Registering-for-Credit>
      4. All Department- We have lab fees for tutoring help, and one issue might be that there is a disconnect between Writing Center/tutoring services and the English Department
         1. See Dr. Ortolano’s comment in Faculty Announcements

1. Hiring Committees for Hendry Glades and Lee positions (Updates)
   1. Hendry Glades hire is going well!
   2. Lee Positions are being advertised
   3. Collier line is being requested for the upcoming academic year.
2. Prof. Hummel, Prof. Horn, and Dr. Ortolano are going to create LIT 2933: Special Topics in Literature
   1. This class is offered by Pensacola State College and can be repeated when the theme shifts.
   2. It offers a focused exploration of a significant genre of literature, such as Southern Literature, Science Fiction, Apocalyptic Literature, Gothic Literature, Detective Fiction, or Children's Literature.
   3. This class will provide added flexibility to professors as they work to meet the needs of FSW students. It is envisioned as a complimentary course to the English Department’s other classes, all of which have focused time periods or geographic regions or require a large survey that prevents faculty from exploring a specific genre in depth. The course performs this exact function at Pensacola State College—the institution that first introduced the class in 2009. Its established success there demonstrates its long-term viability. The class will also allow faculty to organically gauge student interest in specific topics and can thus lead to other, topic-specific courses, if demand warrants it.
3. Curriculum Committee- Course Revisions to LIT 2380, etc., Catalog updates
   1. Some discrepancies exist between courses we offer and the state numbering system for a number of courses
      1. Need to adjust these issues or eliminate courses that don’t have a function
         1. A Canvas board will be created to outline all of these issues so that they can be addressed
   2. Might want to consider making LIT 2380 Writing Intensive and a Part B fulfillment to help the course make on the ground.
   3. Working on fixing issue where ENG prefix says Theater Arts instead of English
4. Spring 2018 New Textbook Process for ENC 1102 Essay/RFP for Essay Online
   1. RFP being made for ENC 1102 (Essay) online.
      1. Dr. Trogan will have right of first refusal, but please let her know if you’re interested.
5. Committee/Subcommittee Updates
   1. FLAC/FSW Writes- Dr. Ortolano- FSW will host award-winning fiction writer Cary Holladay on February 5th as part of her tour for the Florida Literary Arts Coalition. She will give a reading at 5pm in the Rush Auditorium and will hold a book signing outside of the venue​ from 4:30 until the beginning of the event. She is the author of seven volumes of fiction, including *Horse People: Stories*(Louisiana State UP 2013), *The Deer in the Mirror*(Ohio State UP 2013), *The Quick Change Artist: Stories* (Swallow Press / Ohio UP 2006), *The Palace of Wasted Footsteps*(U of Missouri Press 1998), and *The People Down South*(U of Illinois Press 1989); and the novels *Mercury* (Shaye Areheart Books/Random House 2002) and *A Fight in the Doctor’s Office* (Miami UP 2008). Prof. Holladay teaches creative writing at the University of Memphis and is a member of the core faculty at Converse College’s low-residency MFA. She finds inspiration in the history, culture, and folklore of her native Virginia and the South. Prof. Holladay’s books are currently for sale at the Thomas Edison Campus bookstore, and the reading is free and open to the public.
6. Faculty Announcements/Updates & New Business
   1. Dr. Ortolano- was asked to serve on advisory council for Tutoring Services/Writing Center
      1. He will bring up the department’s concerns during the group’s first meeting in January.
   2. Prof. Hummel notes a general issue with a lack of support with mental health counseling and other resources for students at FSW.
      1. Something that we should bring up to make sure that students have the resources that they need.
   3. Dr. Trogan received the ARC grant!!! Wild applause!!!
   4. Prof. Hummel will be on sabbatical this spring!!! More applause!!!
   5. Prof. Orobello- Third Annual Cultural Arts Festival will take place in April and awards will go out to students who had work placed in *Serendipity.*

Meeting is adjourned

*Notes Prepared by Dr. Scott Ortolano*