English Department Meeting Notes

Friday, February 9th

Zoom: <https://fsw.zoom.us/j/84709315708>

Sara Dustin, Ihasha Horn, Michael Barach, Tom Mohundro, Brandi George, Jeremy Pilarski, Laura Henning, Suzanne Biedenbach, Cara-Minardi-Power, Amy Trogan, Jill Hummel, Leonard Owens, Eric Ivy, Thomas Wayne, Jason Calabrese, Mark Massaro, Scott Ortolano, Edward Krzeminski, Shawn Moore, David Luther, Lewis Perkins, Emilie Booth.

Start: 2:01 P.M

**I. Approval of Meeting Notes**

A. Faculty approves.

**Agenda**

1. **Updates from Advising – Emilie Booth**
   1. I have reached out to USF, UCF, and FAMU and they will be holding advising sessions for students.
   2. There will be a Transfer Fair in March and will be a good source of information for students.
2. **Updates from DE & Curriculum**
   1. Jeremy is doing an evaluation that he will be sending out this week. We do have a Curriculum website but that might change. Curriculog is not user friendly and expensive.
   2. **Discussion regarding LIT Prerequisites**
      1. Shawn: Vote needed before next Curriculum Mtg.
      2. Jill: What is the rationale for removing LIT Prereqs? Which LIT classes aren’t filling? How do we know it’s the requirement that is causing it?
      3. Shawn: It seemed to help in the Humanities which improved enrollment in 2020. We don’t have data, but the thought was taking them together could help reinforce concepts.
      4. Lenny: LIT 2000 seems to be the one that has trouble filling. A lot of students choose Humanities.
      5. Jill: Can we make them concurrent? Do other colleges have prereqs?
      6. Shawn: No, most do not.
      7. Shawn: The confusion in the last meeting stems from us not being involved in the voting for this. I contacted Dr. Page and wanted to bring this back to a vote.
      8. Michael: It seems like the idea is to give more exciting English classes in their first semesters.
      9. Emilie: From an advising standpoint, the phrase “Writing Intensive” scares students. Some think that “LIT + Writing Intensive” sounds scarier than a Humanities course.
      10. Jason: Will they do away with Gen Ed requirement in 1102 down the line?
      11. Shawn: I don’t think so.
      12. Lenny/Jill: With 1102 it might be hard for us to make load.
      13. Shawn: A good compromise might be to remove the prereq for LIT 2000 but not the others.
      14. **Vote held – It passes.**
3. **Updates from Creative Writing, Illuminations, CRW Club**
   1. Brandi: Illuminations submissions are now closed. The Launch Party will be during the Research Expo – April 10th at 11:20-12:00 P.M.
   2. Shawn: The CA Conrad event was incredible.
   3. Ihasha: The CRW Club president has gone rogue for the time being. Looking for a way to fix this. Professor Chase is looking for student work. Dr. Page also wants those teaching CRW to get together to coordinate course schedules.
4. **Updates from English Faculty**
   1. Scott lets us know if we have questions about his events to let him know since he already pitched them in the School meeting.
   2. Shawn: As for adjunct mentoring, you will need to complete the course and upload everything to get your stipend. As of now, the course doesn’t exist anymore.
   3. Ihasha: I’m going through this process and will let you all know how it works out.
5. **Updates Regarding ENC 1130 Community of Practice – Dr. Suzanne Biedenbach and Dr. Cara Minardi-Power** 
   1. Cara: The first meeting went well but attendance was low. Next meeting will be Feb 23 at 12 P.M.
   2. Suzanne: Anyone is welcome, whether you teach it or not.
6. **Gen Ed Writing Intensive Courses** 
   1. Shawn: I encourage you all to go to the GAEC meeting. We need a WAC person.
   2. Cara: I’ve always advocated for other disciples to teach writing for their courses. However, I don’t think removing the designation for Writing Intensive for other courses is necessary the best idea.
   3. *General consensus that without a WAC person this will increase our workload.*
   4. Jill: I’m concerned they might try to use Writing Intensive designation to boost their enrollment. AI could also be a major issue with these courses. Can we ask for a WI certification?
   5. Suzanne: Agree, the criteria should go through us.
   6. Shawn: This didn’t work well before. It was tried with a Science course.
   7. Scott: Even non-writing courses should be teaching how to write for their discipline.
   8. Lenny: Can we open up a contract for a WAC person? Maybe a split load?
7. **Hiring Committee** 
   1. Shawn: We received 51 applications for Lee and 19 for Hendry Glades. Around 22 had the proper credentials but almost none of them had the developmental writing experience we were looking for. This job posting only went out to Indeed. Applications are back open until the 28th. If you have someone who you think is a good fit encourage them to apply and you can also write a support letter to the committee.
8. **Course Development (Discussion)**
   1. Shawn: Let’s hold off course development until we find out more about the WI course designations. We’ll discuss this further in March and will discuss developing a shell as a department.
   2. Shawn: As for course offerings, it seems like flex/online courses are still popular despite us being told otherwise. Let’s teach these as much as we can so these aren’t taken away.
   3. *General agreement*
   4. Jill: Blended for me has been the best of both worlds. I encourage others to try varying your modalities.
   5. Mark: A lot of students are used to online schooling. In my peer reviews, I give them a choice between online/in-person and it works well and increases attendance.
9. **English Dept. Chair Discussion**
   1. Shawn: I have applied for a sabbatical. We will probably need an interim Dept. Chair. Does anyone want to do it? May I suggest Professor Wayne or Professor Ortolono?
   2. *No volunteers*.
   3. Shawn: If nobody volunteers, we will just choose someone to take over the meetings in the Fall.
   4. Jill: Maybe, for one semester.
   5. Eric: What time is the GAEC meeting next Friday?
   6. Shawn: 10 A.M, over Zoom.

Meeting Ends: 3:22 P.M