English Department Meeting Notes – January 2025

Friday, January 10th, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Zoom: <https://fsw.zoom.us/j/84699070938>

**Attendance**: Shawn Moore, Leonard Owens, Hannah Johnson, Victor Triay, Lynn Embick, Thomas Wayne, Sara Dustin, Laura Henning, Mark Massaro, Jill Hummel, Michael Barach, Brandi George, Eric Ivy, Eddie Krzeminski, Cara Minardi-Power, Amy Trogan, Jeremy Pilarski, Jason Calabrese, Suzanne Biedenbach, Scott Ortolano, Ihasha Horn, Christopher Strathman

**Absent:** Jason Calabrese

**Meeting Starts**: 2:01 P.M

Agenda

1. Reading and Approval of Minutes from November
   1. One Correction (Amy wasn’t Present at last meeting).
   2. **Notes approved.**
2. Updates for the Department
   1. Advising
      1. Shawn: They can’t be here today. If you all have questions, please reach out to her. There are some Destination FGCU events coming up. There is also a USF event. I will send those flyers out.
   2. DE
      1. Shawn: On the book issues. We are figuring out the Little Seagull book issue.
      2. Cara: Which book issue?
      3. Shawn: They didn’t have access to the new digital editions.
      4. Cara: When I sent out the observation materials, I asked which textbooks the schools are using. Some of them are still using They Say/I Say. We will have to deal with it at some point.
      5. Cara: Two DE instructors have yet to send me anything. As for observations, they have gone very well so far.
   3. Curriculum
      1. Jeremy: We have a meeting on Friday, and it should be a short one. Do you want me to send you email updates or will Mark continue doing so?
      2. Mark: I will do so.
   4. GEAC
      1. WAC feedback needed
      2. Suzanne: As for the WAC proposal, Dr. Bilsky was at least willing to hear about the proposal. Cara and I volunteered to do research and come up with a proposal. We decided we would research all the colleges and universities in Florida to see what kinds of programs they have there. What we found out is that very few of these programs exist in our state. I contacted Daytona State to get some info on theirs and am waiting to hear back. We are hoping to find ways to justify it. For instance, we found some compelling stats to justify our case: Florida ranks 44th in the nation. Hendry is the very last county on the rankings. From these stats, it seems like there is a great need for this. Another study showed that 75% of recent college graduates were unsatisfactory in terms of communication skills, according to major hiring companies.
      3. Suzanne: I will share this document with Shawn. If you all could look through it and give us feedback by the 24th, that would be great.
      4. Cara: We are worried about the number of course releases we are asking for.
      5. Shawn: Brian had an interesting idea for a hybrid-administer position that also has a teaching requirement. It seems like they are at least open to the negotiation process.
   5. Assessment
      1. Amy: I haven’t been able to talk with Monique yet since I just got back. I will make a note to do so.
      2. Michael: Nothing of note happened at the December meeting. It was a very quick meeting.
   6. Professional Development
      1. Scott: The ancillary fund is still going. We may run out temporarily and may have to do a reauthorization. This is a good thing since it means people are using it. If anybody has a Late February/March conference, we are still taking late applications. The April/May/June travel window will be due at the end of February.
      2. Scott: We do have a PD Friday session with Brandi. And we have a follow-up one with Jill!
      3. Scott: I also wanted to plug the webinar watch party series.
   7. Clubs/Illuminations/Creative Writing
      1. Brandi: Illuminations needs more submissions. If you could post it in your announcements that would be very helpful. If you can also scope out your personal narrative assignments, please encourage them to submit it.
      2. Brandi: We also have a writer coming in as well: Julie Marie Wade.
      3. Ihasha: I have more interest this semester from the club so hopefully that will help you out, Brandi. CRW club is meeting on Wednesdays at 3 o clock. The Sustainability club is meeting on Mondays at 3 in the garden. That club is also doing a photography contest.
3. 1102 Master Shell Discussion & Common Course Adoption Discussion
4. Objectives:
   1. What is 1102?
   2. Proposed plan to develop shell before Fall 2025
   3. The department was asked to clarify the 1102 online common course adoption
   4. Discuss proposed idea by Dr. Page to work with SimpleSyllabus to have common course adoptions added to the master syllabi. This would eliminate the need for faculty to select the common course adoption.
5. Discussion:
   1. Shawn: The only thing they have pinged for the HLC visit in April is 1102. They are struggling to define what exactly that course is. They brought up the common course adoption textbook (which OER is being used, and the Little Seagull). What we need to do is make a decision on the OER. My solution for the online course right now is to change the syllabus to “OER + Little Seagull.” We can keep the textbook the same as it has been and keep it consistent, or expand our 1101 textbook so it can cover 1102. Or a third option would be to find a textbook everybody likes.
   2. Lenny: Brian also shared with me that they would prefer that the common adoption be the same across all modalities.
   3. Shawn: I like the idea of expanding because it gives us the most freedom. Bibliu also makes things difficult so it would circumvent that.
   4. Jill: Historically, when we started, Comp 2 had three emphases. It was difficult to have a common textbook for all three. After the pandemic, OER became a much bigger presence. Now we have one Comp 2 “to rule them all.” I think it might be better to focus on one text for all of it and move forward. I also don’t think we need the Little Seagull anymore.
   5. Scott: A lot of universities are moving away from Comp 2 to alternative versions of it.
   6. Shawn: I am confident we won’t lose 1102 because of the money aspect.
   7. Shawn: If we decide to go through with this, I really want to streamline this and have all of us work together on it. It’s too much work for one person.
   8. Lenny: We can fully re-envision Comp 2 but also keep the freedom if we have our own book. We can add chapters to the book from a LIT perspective.
   9. Shawn: The 1102 master course is past the refresh time, so we are on the clock for that.
   10. Cara: I don’t see why we couldn’t do a course that involves all those different themes. One way to do that is to include all three approaches in sample syllabi.
   11. Shawn: For our next Dept meeting, we have to define 1102 and set the framework. From there, Lenny and I can talk about course development. As for the no-cost question, 1102 is currently not a no-cost course.
   12. Lenny: If we do an OER for 1102, it will become a no-cost course, and you will probably not be able to adopt your own textbook.
   13. Shawn: We need to figure out what the language is so that situation doesn’t come up again.
   14. Vote on choosing to expand *Starting the Journey* as Common Course Textbook for all modalities for 1102:
       1. **Vote passes.**
   15. Shawn: We will be working on 1102 development for our next few meetings. In August you should have the new 1102 master shell.
   16. Lenny: To add, now that the vote is passed. If you have any resources you want to share, please do so! The stuff on PressBooks is extremely easy to import.
   17. Suzanne: Just a reminder, we do have ENG 2210 as well.
   18. Shawn: By April 11, send those things you want to integrate to Lenny.
   19. Shawn: Hopefully by the next time we do syllabi, it will have the common course text already on there. If you do want to assign a different textbook, those forms need to be in soon. Please get those forms into Wendy.
   20. Jill: Do we still have to if we aren’t changing the textbook?
   21. Shawn: I think we do have to do it each time now, but I will check on it.
   22. *Jill and Cara both report issues with not having enough textbooks for their courses.*
6. Final Stuff:
   1. Shawn: If an administrator comes to you and asks you to do work that seems department specific, I will ask you to ask them if they’ve talked to me first.
   2. Mark: What would that be?
   3. Shawn: It would be something like “can you write a summary about what you do in your CRW classroom?” They were collecting narratives for HLC.
   4. Jill: I was asked to proofread their narrative, and I said no.
   5. Shawn: If your gut says, “should we discuss this as a department?” then definitely ask if they’ve talked to me first.
   6. Shawn: One more thing: I teach many overloads and it’s been told to me that they will choose which overloads you have. Brian is working to fix it. If you see something wrong with your load sheet, please reach out to Brian so he can fix it.
   7. Shawn: For the next meeting, what is 1102? What do we want it to be? What is the pedagogical framework?

**Meeting Ends**: 3:06 p.m