**Agenda**

English Department Meeting

13 August 2019

Lee: U-102; Charlotte: E-105; Collier: A-103; Hendry/Glades: A-106

**In attendance:** Ellie Bunting, Amy Trogan, Rebecca Harris, Shawn Moore, Thomas Mohundro, Scott Ortolano, Thomas Wayne, Sara Dustin, Jeremy Pilarski, Jennifer Grove, Jill Hummel, Brandi George, Cara Minardi-Power, Ihasha Horn, Katie Waddell, Ellie Bunting, John Pelot, Eric Ivy, Michael Barach, Catherine Gooch, Mark Massaro, Suzanne Biedenbach, Jason Calabrese, David Luther, Laura Tichy-Smith

**Excused:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

**Start time:** 1:18

**End time:** 2:50

1. Approval of August Minutes
   1. Approved unanimously
2. Fall/Spring Schedule Updates
   1. Schedule is done—for the most part :)
      1. Some small items are still being adjusted.
3. Hiring: Charlotte/Hendry Updates
   1. Hendry/Glades committee has been formed and is on its way.
   2. Charlotte campus hire is just negotiating some final nuances about the job description, but the committee has been formed and progress will begin shortly.
4. Textbooks: LIT 2000 (Spring 2020)
   1. Norton has gone into a new edition, and we need to figure out a new text/approach going forward.
   2. One option that the department will review is to have each person use a universal cheap handbook and then supplement with resources that will allow them to teach their best version of the class.
      1. The book under consideration is Janet E. Gardner and Joanne Diaz’s *Reading and Writing About Literature*, 4th ed, Macmillan Learning, 2017 (<https://www.macmillanlearning.com/college/us/product/Reading-and-Writing-About-Literature/p/1319035361?searchText=gardner&selected_tab=About>)
         1. Dr. Ortolano will reach out to the book rep to try and figure out why the books that we requested haven’t yet arrived.
   3. The other option is to design a unified Canvas resource that faculty members can pull from.
      1. Dr. Hoover is requesting two course releases to build a formal version of such a resource for the Intro to Humanities class, and we might want to see how this turns out before we make a decision so that we’ll have a clear view of the field.
         1. Given his timeline, we will know if this sort of compensation is available by our next department meeting.
   4. This question is moot for online sections of the course, which are going OER under the leadership of Prof. Bunting.
5. Assessment: Dr. Amy Trogan
   1. We are preparing to do our artifact analysis for Gen Ed. Analyze is the competency being evaluated, and our classes make up a significant portion of the college’s courses in this area.
   2. Faculty who are chosen for assessment will be notified soon and will have a couple of delivery options that they can choose from—paper or via Canvas.
   3. Quite a bit of progress has been made on the department mission statement front. We are now at the stage of trying to decide what our next step is.
      1. Initially, we were going to have web space for the department where our mission statement would appear. The department web page initiative is no longer moving forward due to other changes at the college, but the mission statement will still be a good way for us to mark out our values and goals as a department.
         1. It also still goes to SACS for our accreditation process.
      2. Quite a bit of spirited discussion follows as various faculty members talk about the goals of the department and what we want the mission statement to say about what we do and who we are.
6. Writing Center Liaison: Dr. Katie Waddell
   1. Met with Ms. Price and Ms. Moore
      1. Dr. Waddell will continue training sessions with IAs, with the first meeting beginning next week. During this initial meeting, future meeting topics will be established in a collaborative format.
      2. Ms. Price will attend our next department meeting.
      3. Potential goals for the year:
         1. Digitizing forms and developing a more intuitive assessment process.
         2. Ms. Moore has said that they are open to this concept, but need to know more about why such information is useful.
            1. A discussion follows that covers how it will help with assessment, provide a window into how and why our students use the Writing Center, reduce printing costs, make the current process more efficient, and bring us up to norms in the field.
         3. A number of concerns are expressed about the relationship between the English Department and Writing Center, the Writing Center’s approach to teaching writing and current lack of qualitative assessment practices, and the Writing Center’s view of the English Department’s expertise in the field of Writing and/or Writing Center Studies.
7. African-American Literature Course Proposal: Dr. Scott Ortolano and Dr. Catherine Gooch
   1. New class is unanimously approved to be sent to curriculum, and it will be on the docket for the Curriculum Committee’s November meeting.
8. Other course updates- Prof. Jill Hummel
   1. Contemporary Literature-
      1. Changed date from 1985 to Post-WWII, which better aligns with conventions in the course.
      2. “Pulitzer Prize-winning” works of literature changed to “award-winning.” There really isn’t a reason why the Pulitzer Prize was chosen as the qualifier, and it limits what people can offer.
   2. Women’s lit
      1. Made writing intensive
      2. Changed to more of a lit emphasis—currently too much of a women’s studies course. New focus more fully aligns with established classes.
9. E-Learning: Dr. Shawn Moore
   1. Goal of E-Learning is to bring courses up to par with Quality Matters comprehensive assessment to ensure the quality of our students’ online experience.
      1. Trainings will be available for faculty in the spring to certify them in Quality Matters course development
      2. During our next meeting, we should pick an online class to put through Quality Matters evaluation to see how our courses stack up.
10. Big Projects for AY 2019-20
    1. One idea is to see if we might establish a course rotation for non-LIT 2000 literature courses again just to make sure that we have a pattern to how classes are offered and so there isn’t overlap with content or times. This will help to ensure that student needs are met and that the courses make on a more consistent basis.
11. Faculty Announcements/Updates
    1. Dr. Harris- Save the Date: October 4th Mixer in the 86 Room in Downtown Fort Myers
    2. Dr. Ortolano- Visiting Poet Mary Biddinger on Sept. 30th!
       1. See flyer on Canvas for information about her reading, book signing, and talk about finding time for creativity in our daily lives.
    3. Prof. Pelot- There is a new Creative Writing Club on Charlotte Campus as part of a broader revitalization push!
       1. Flyer will be posted to Canvas shortly for their first event, which is coming up!
    4. Department- Dr. Trogan is presenting her new and exciting archival project on the relationship between Owen Barfield and C. S. Lewis on Research Day! Come and check it out!
    5. Department- Dr. Harris has a One Book, One College talk coming up
    6. Dr. George—Creative Writing Club is up and running. Contact her if you have any interested students, etc.
    7. Prof Horn—Sustainability Club is up and running.
    8. Dr. Waddell—Now leader of GSA, which has been renamed Gender and Sexuality Alliance. Please send any interested students to her.
    9. Dr. Moore- The first meeting of the writing and research group is coming up soon!

*Noted Prepared by Dr. Scott Ortolano*