COMMITTEE: Writing Across the Curriculum Committee

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2011 3:00pm

PERSON PRESIDING: Dr. Marianna Walker, Dr. Elizabeth Swaggerty

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Elizabeth Swaggerty, Hector Garza, Ashley Egan, Dario Bernardini, Carolyn Dunn

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Michelle Eble, Will Banks, Andrea Robertson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Marianna Walker, Lori Lee

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ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Committee Charge

Discussion: Dr. Walker, Chair of the Faculty, opened the meeting because the WAC Committee is now a Faculty Senate Committee. Introductions of those present were made, and Dr. Walker discussed the committee charge and responsibilities. Dr. Walker and Lori Lee left the meeting at 3:30pm

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Agenda Item: Election of Officers

Discussion: The committee needs to elect a Chair, a Vice-Chair and a Secretary.

Action Taken: Elizabeth Swaggerty was nominated and elected as Chair. Hector Garza was nominated and elected as Vice-Chair. Carolyn Dunn was nominated and elected as Secretary.

Assigned additional duties to: Ashley Egan was appointed as representative to Honors College Faculty Advisory Committee

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Agenda Item: Overview of WAC work to date

Discussion: Will Banks Provided an overview of the committee’s work from last year, and also made suggestions about what the WAC might consider in future:

A statement regarding a course’s Writing Intensive status has been created and faculty teaching these WI classes were asked to add that statement to the course syllabus. The University Writing Program usually prepares the annual report that is required of WAC by the Faculty Senate. In terms of regular
responsibilities, the WAC is responsible for reviewing proposals to make a course WI and approving those courses.

In terms of possible future directions for the WAC Committee, Dr. Banks discussed considering the weight writing tasks carry in the actual final grade of a WI course, possible revision of the current 5 WI models, and reviewing WI courses regularly once they are approved. There was also some general discussion of writing issues, including changes in instructors of WI courses from semester to semester, class caps of WI courses – currently 25. There was also some discussion about the benefit from a faculty standpoint of teaching a WI course – why would faculty want to teach a WI course?

Dr. Banks also discussed the university QEP program. One possibility currently under review involves putting ENGL 1200 in the sophomore year and making it a bridge to more discipline specific writing. This concept is only in the discussion phase, and faculty input is being sought.

Action Taken: Dr. Swaggerty will draft an e-mail that can be sent out on announce covering the guidelines for WI courses and how faculty can submit a WI proposal or have the WI designation removed from the course.

NEXT MEETING: November 14, 3:30pm, Joyner 1015