

Writing Across the Curriculum Committee

Minutes

April 13, 2020

3:00pm

Virtual Teams Meeting

IN ATTENDANCE:

Facilitator: Lisa Ellison, Chair

Regular Members: Jeanette Avery, Danny Ellis, Ann Mannie, Heather Ries

Ex-officio Members: Will Banks, Bryna Coonin, Michelle Eble, Elizabeth Ketterman, Jen Scott Mobley, Tracy Morse

I. Call to Order, Welcome

II. Approved Minutes from February 10, 2020. Motion to approve - Avery; 2nd - Eble

ACTIONS OF MEETING:

III. New business

- Agenda Item: Catalog Revision for WI statement (Banks/Ellison lead discussion)

Discussion: WI statement in course catalog requires update. A major revision is that WI requirement will be met by instances (number of courses) rather than credit hours. Additional revisions provide clarification on transfer/placement policies & for students with more than one major. Coonin requested clarification for WI* designation. Decision was made to leave out WI and WI* wording altogether in the statement, as these designations are already defined elsewhere in the course catalog. Coonin motioned to accept WI statement with proposed revision removing WI and WI* as part of wording; 2nd - Mobley. Update to move to Faculty Senate for approval for inclusion in Course Catalog in Fall.

Action Taken: All approved Catalog revision of WI statement with requested change.

- Agenda Item: Update: ENGL 2201 as co-requisite for 3000 level and pre-requisite for 4000 level WI courses (Morse leads discussion)

Discussion: The idea for ENGL 2201 as a pre/corequisite for 3000-4000 level WI courses was presented at WI liaisons meeting and response was positive. The only concern raised related to freshmen and sophomores in one discipline who try to complete 3000 or 4000 level WI courses by the sophomore year. These students may not be able to register for or complete ENGL 2201 prior to taking these courses. Suggestion was made to allow exceptions for pre/corequisite for individual courses. Pre/corequisite change would require Course Catalog update only, but no change request for each individual course. Pre/corequisite topic will be added to Chairs agenda for Fall for feedback.

- Agenda Item: WI* (by Section)

Discussion: Ellison opened up discussion regarding WI* (by section) and “stacked” WI* (by section), i.e., running concurrent WI & non-WI sections of a class. Historically, a few departments have utilized WI* to provide flexibility in meeting student demand for WI and address faculty availability to teach WI courses. WI Review over the last 5 years has suggested that a few programs use “stacked” sections where two sections (one WI and one not-WI) are

taught together at the same time by the same instructor, which led the committee to wonder if this model was pedagogically effective and allowed students to meet the five University Writing Outcomes. Mobley discussed her experience teaching a stacked WI*(by section) and her efforts to work with the curriculum to meet WI outcomes, but acknowledged that this was difficult and resulted in extra labor for the instructor. This WI* option remains important in their discipline to help students meet WI requirements. Ellison suggested the possibility of placing a two-year deadline for stacked WI* to give programs using “stacked” sections time to make any necessary curricular changes. Suggestion was made to evaluate QEP data to determine how “stacked” WI* courses are meeting WI outcomes. Banks recommended meeting face to face in AY2020-21 with departments utilizing stacked WI* to better understand why this stacked model is needed and what other possibilities might exist with the current WI program. Discipline-based input would help to better understand the necessity of stacked WI* and to determine the potential for restructuring stacked WI* courses to transition to WI, given guidance and direction.

IV. Old business

- Agenda Item: Tentative KINE report (Banks lead in discussion)

Discussion: Most necessary information has been collected, excepting two courses that have not provided information about how they are meeting WI Outcomes, as well as some missing syllabi. One KINE course was listed as WI in the KINE report but was removed as WI in 2018. No WI removals were requested for KINE this year. Banks will send out recommendations for KINE.

- Agenda Item: Tentative report on transfer data from registrar (Banks lead in discussion)

Discussion: Ellison received report from Registrar with information about transfer data. Further discussion tabled for next meeting.

V. Announcements

- Writing Foundations (Morse): Enrollment for 2201 is going well, with some seats still available. 1101 is an unknown at this time. Enrollment is good.
- University Writing Program/University Writing Center (Banks):
Facebook group is opening up for WI instructors: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ecuwac>
Weekly themes will be provided, including support for DE.
Writing Center staffing for summer is an unknown, with work study terminating end of April. Student workers are able to work online which may help. Banks anticipates a great need for Writing Center assistance this summer.
Banks is meeting with IT about transition from iwebfolio to Portfolium. The hope is to be in Portfolium this Fall. Banks will spend summer working on Portfolium transition.

VI. Any other business: Upcoming annual report due May 15th.

VII. Adjournment: This is the final meeting of the year. Motion to adjourn: Mobley; 2nd - Ries

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Mannie
April 13, 2020