

English Department

MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2015

Room 2721 12:00pm

PRESENT

Bemis, Roberta
Ferrell, Diana
Howell, Kevin
Rowley, Deirdre
Zielinski, David

Cormier, Judy
Garcia, Olivia
Lay, Nancy
Shaner, Christina
Simpson, Scott

Dorantes, Kathleen
Heumann, Michael
Morris, Audrey
Tirado, Xochitl

ABSENT

Baukholt, Robert

Rapp, Frank

Simpson, Scott

GUEST

Dorsey, Tanya

- I. **Call to Order (Kathleen Dorantes)**
Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm.

- II. **Action Items**

1. **ASG English Award Recipient**

Kathleen mentioned that only two names were sent forward to her as candidates for the ASG English Award. An election was conducted and Mia Moreno will be the recipient this year of the award.

(MSC M. Heumann/D. Rowley)

2. **AP English Credit**

Kathleen reported that Counselor Veronica Soto brought up the point at a Curriculum Meeting that we need to revisit what we do with AP Credit. There are two AP English classes, English Language and Composition and English Literature and Composition. In English Language and Composition, a score of 3 or 4 is equivalent to passing ENGL 110 and students get 3 units. If a student gets a score of 5, the student is passed out of 110 and 201 for a total of 6 units. For English Literature and Composition, a score of 3 or 4 is equivalent to passing ENGL 110 and students get three units. If a student gets a score of 5, the student is passed out of English 110 and English 102. The change that we have had since this was last looked at is that we've changed from English 101, 3 credits to English 110, 4 credits. Kathleen asked if we should increase the units given to reflect the four units of English 110.

Kathleen said these classes are very hard to score high in, and they're nationally standardized. Tanya mentioned that often students take the

classes in high school, but they don't take the tests because they are expensive. Kathleen said the tests cost approximately \$80. Michael said that it's sad that they are that expensive because if the students took them and passed, they wouldn't have to spend time taking all the classes. He also said that if they did pass with a 3, 4 or 5, they wouldn't have to take the Accuplacer test.

The department voted with one abstention to increase the units offered for the AP classes to reflect the four units of English 110. Kathleen said she would pass this information on to Veronica Soto.

(MSC Morris/M. Heumann, with one abstention)

III. Discussion

Class Selection for Reading Classes Proposal

1. Kathleen said there was a problem with the class selection in that even though Nancy Lay picks first, by the time overload comes around all the Reading classes are gone. The problem is that some of the Reading classes are low enrolled and hard to fill now because of the way we have changed our reading around. However, none of Nancy's classes can be cancelled because she needs to make load.

Kathleen proposed changing the department's class selection procedure so as to allow Nancy not only to choose her load but also her overload. Roberta stated that no one is owed overload. Roberta said she understands the scenario, but she does not want to change the current procedure.

David wanted some clarification about the enrollment being low because of the way things were changed regarding Reading classes. Kathleen explained that reading classes are no longer a requirement for graduation. Michael said that it was eliminated for us. There are now fewer Reading sections in the schedule. The reading requirement is now fulfilled by passing ENGL 110, so many students don't take Reading classes.

Michael said we should try to bolster the reading program. This would serve two purposes. It would put more importance on the need for Reading classes and take care of Nancy's situation at the same time.

Audrey has been looking at some different models that are used at other colleges. One is having companion classes so when they're taking transfer level courses they a Reading course that goes with it.

Kathleen said it appears the will of the department is to not change the class selection process currently in place.

2. Room 2751

Kathleen mentioned that there are some problems with Room 2751 and the arrangement of the desks. Some instructors are reconfiguring the desks, but not moving them back. It was discussed that unless an instructor in 2751 has the permission of the instructor that follows, the desks should be left all facing forward in rows.

3. Aplia Site License

The Aplia site license idea is still moving forward. Kathleen has been talking with David Phillips of Cengage about this.

Audrey said that she and Xochitl like to use an Aplia that is specific to their textbooks. Kathleen said she didn't think she could get anything but a generic Aplia class.

Deirdre said she could use a generic program because she will only use the grammar section.

Nancy said she doesn't bundle her books and so her students get the high price for the stand alone lab access. Judy said she hasn't used Aplia but has been looking at it. She wanted to know if we get the site license would students be able to access it from home or would they have to come here to the lab. Kathleen said students would be able to access it from any computer that has internet.

IV. Reports

1. Chair's Report

A. OEI (Online Education Initiative)

Xochitl and Audrey are piloting their English 110 classes with the Online Education Initiative or OEI. This program will be two semesters long.

B. English Standards Committee

English Standards Committee had its first meeting. There were about six people at the meeting. They discussed ENGL 008 and also having a continuum of writing skills from ENGL 008 to 201, coordinating all of those classes together and increasing their skills as we go along. They also looked at textbooks.

C. Census Reports

Dr. Nick sent out a report regarding census rosters that were late. There were 64 classes that had not submitted census rosters on time, but there was not a single English class on the list. Kathleen thanked everyone for submitting their census rosters in a timely manner.

D. Accreditation Update

So far, the reports seem positive.

2. Academic Senate Report

Michael reported that there's a reorganization happening again this year with a new division of Math and Science. All of the Health, Administration of Justice and Nursing will be a separate area that Tina Aguirre will be in charge of. A resolution will be voted on tomorrow. Also there's another resolution about Athletics. Currently it is under Student Affairs, and it may be moved to Instruction.

V. Other

Kathleen showed the department the Events Calendar.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47pm.