

English Department

MEETING MINUTES

November 13, 2017

1:00-1:50PM

Room 2721

PRESENT

Baukholt, Robert
Garcia, Olivia
Lay, Nancy
Rowley, Deirdre
Simpson, Scott
Tirado, Xochitl

Bemis, Roberta
Heumann, Michael
Morris, Audrey
Shaner, Christina
Simpson, Scott

Cormier, Judy
Howell, Kevin
Patterson, James
Simpson, Scott
Spence, Cynthia

ABSENT

*Sandoval, Angel

*Time constraints due to teaching at Calipatria/Centinela Prisons.

GUESTS

Kemp, Elizabeth

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Michael Heumann.

II. Consent Agenda – October 9, 2017

(M/S/C R. Baukholt/J. Cormier)

The minutes were approved as presented.

III. Action Items

1. Course Revisions for English 008, 009, 010, and 110

(M/S/C R. Baukholt/A. Morris for Approval of the Four Course Revisions)

James Patterson opened up the discussion by thanking everyone for agreeing to postpone this item from the previous meeting as it gave him the opportunity to share his arguments.

Michael said that he would have more to say about these course revisions probably at the start of spring in relation to SLO's and assessing SLO's. Instead of assessing SLO's one at a time Michael thinks that we should just do them all. He said that this time there won't be four SLO's for each one but maybe just two or three this time. He also said that we haven't done it for about a year and we need to catch up.

2. English 055

(M/S/C C. Spence/J. Patterson to Approve English 055)

Cynthia explained that we have Multiple Measures that are letting students in to ENGL 110. This is an additional way for students to go in to 110, for those who didn't meet the multiple measure requirements. English 009 students are going to submit their transcripts for consideration. Michael will be going over their transcripts and if the students are approved they will be allowed to go into the co-requisite option and will be taking ENGL 110 along with the with the one-unit lab ENGL 055, which will be taught by the same instructor and will follow the 110 course. The lab component is to help students construct the essays and understand the work that they might struggle with in 110. This is the co-requisite model that has been adopted by 14 colleges. More are piloting it and others are considering it. This is what the California Acceleration Project is promoting, and it's also being promoted by the Chancellor's Office.

James asked if we had an anticipated start date to which Michael replied that it's this coming fall. Michael said to bear in mind that it's a three hour one-unit lab class and it's a lab in the strict sense that there's no homework to it. In total it's a seven hour per week class that you'll be with the same students. Cynthia mentioned that other colleges are doing more; Mesa is doing a two-hour lab. Michael said that Southwestern just passed this same class and they'll also be starting it in the fall. James asked if you had to be accelerated trained in order to teach this 110 with the lab class, Cynthia mentioned that there's going to be a training this summer for the teachers who will be teaching this class. James also mentioned that he doesn't want the training but he does want to teach the class. Cynthia said that she didn't think that they're requiring the training but they would probably like them to know the methods to use for this class to be successful.

Michael said that we did decide as a department to limit the ENGL 010 class to those who got through the accelerated training and that's what James is referring to; this does not extend to that or it would require us to call for an additional motion.

Judy said that in the course objectives there was really nothing in there that indicates that the students were working on materials that they've already written or were working on. She said it seemed kind of sketchy, that shouldn't it be listed in the course objectives as further practice in or concurrent with instruction in or something else to indicate that this is not fresh material? It should state specific objectives Judy said. Cynthia said that this is a learning community. They pair it with a grammar class. The only thing that you need is a course that allows you to have a short amount of instruction, like 10 minutes at the most and the rest of it is work. It's not supposed to be a lecture class; it's supposed to be a working class. They're pairing it with classes that already exist some places. That class can be separate, it doesn't have to be 100% with the 110 class. James went on to say that he understands what Judy is saying but he does feel that the statement in the class description does cover it. This class is to promote success in a concurrent ENGL 110 course. Again he said that he understood what Judy was saying but during

that lab hour he may give a student a separate little independent assignment that's not related to the 110 class but it will focus on a particular skill. He thinks the statement in the description is sufficient.

Audrey said that the grading criteria is pass/no pass. They're practicing their skills. Michael said that a lot of schools have all their Basic Skills classes set as pass or no pass grades. IVC talked about it but never adopted it.

Michael said that he would be putting this through Curriculum this week. He didn't know if it would go through the last meeting of Curriculum through Fall semester or the first meeting in spring. Michael shared how and why he came up with the course number, it's because 055 had not been used before and 55 is halfway to 110!

IV. Discussion & Information Items

1. Program Review

Program Review is upon us. Michael has set it up so that we were focusing on one aspect of our department each year. Last year it was the English major, this year is Composition, and then next year it'll be Reading.

Michael shared that we will be asking for a couple of new faculty members for the department. One of the reasons is we've gone down in the number of faculty quite a bit in the last few years. Angel Sandoval is teaching at the prisons this year through grant funded money; he doesn't know if it's going to go beyond this year but the prisons really want us to continue not only teaching the ENGL 010 that they are now but they want us to also teach 110 over there. Also we've been getting a lot of requests from our dual enrollment people who have English teachers teaching at the high schools. Michael has not heard a lot of people being interested in doing that but if anyone is, please let him know and something can be worked out. Michael was getting ready to do the justification for the new hires.

For Program Review, Michael put together all the charts with data. He went over the data in the meeting. He asked them to look at the data and let him know what they think. Michael says that things are going to start changing. There's a ripple effect that's happening throughout the state. Sydney Rice is part of a group that will be meeting soon to discuss how AB705 will be implemented around the state. The Chancellor's Office doesn't really know. They're trying to look for feedback and ideas from faculty and administrators around the state. Michael is thinking that maybe around early January or maybe the start of our Spring semester we'll have a better idea of what the Chancellor's Office is expecting of us. Michael has heard everything from nothing is going to change to all Basic Skills will go away and he's guessing that neither of those will be correct. It'll probably be something in the middle. Michael's take on this is that we don't need to make any changes at all to our current offerings. If down the road we cannot offer ENGL 008 or 009, we will deal with it then but as far as he can tell we still have a need to offer those classes. We also have additional offerings; we also offer the 010 class that students can take in lieu of those, also we'll be offering the 055 for students that don't want to take the 009 but go straight to 110 and that would rather get it done in one

semester. We have enough options available to meet the needs of our students, ultimately that's what the point is.

Michael is going to be writing it up and asked if anyone had any thoughts they wanted included in Program Review to let him know.

2. SLO Assessment

Michael said that we're going to have different SLO's for our classes because we approved those changes to the Course Outlines. He'd like to use this opportunity as a way to rethink how we assess our SLO's. For 008 and 009 for the most part they will assess them through the common final. For 110, 201 and for 010 we have a basic idea of what we're supposed to be doing but Michael doesn't think that it's set in stone. He said we're all kind of evaluating these SLO's in different ways so there probably isn't a whole lot of consistency when evaluating 110. Kevin agreed with him on the 010. Kevin shared that he knows they all use the rubric and pass or fail. If they pass the essay they pass the SLO's. Kevin feels we need to make the assessment tool a little more concise. He uses an MLS quiz also. Michael said it's something they can work on in spring.

Elizabeth Kemp added that the Teaching and Learning Center is supposed to open up in the spring and actually have events that they are planning. She asked the group if this is something they'd like to do they can invite other faculty and tutors from other areas.

3. Common Finals for 008 and 09

Common finals were coming up and grading will be as it normally is. Michael would like to talk a little about the way grading is done for the common final. He's heard that a few people are indifferent to the way the grading is done. He'd like to have a discussion about it in the spring.

4. English's Role in Tutor Training

There will be a meeting regarding this when we get back in the spring. Cynthia said that she has two wonder embedded tutors and Kevin said that his tutor is phenomenal.

V. Reports

1. English Standards

Michael said they met with English Standards and discussed ENGL 055 class that they just voted on. He thinks spring is a good time to start implementing the stuff they talked about regarding SLO's.

2. Acceleration

Audrey and Deirdre went to a conference in October and other schools hadn't even started on acceleration classes.

3. Basic Skills

Basic Skills is focusing on a new mission statement. Another thing they've been talking about is what could BS help out on in the tutor training area.

4. SLO

Kevin said that if you go to the SLO website that the one he created in Canvas is the one you'll see. You don't have to go to the old one anymore. Michael shared that Kevin has some great stuff that he's put together for SLO's.

5. Distance Education

Xochitl shared that the Exchange is starting in spring.

VI. Other

VII. Adjournment

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50pm.