

Department of English
Minutes of the T/TT Faculty Meeting
Wednesday, December 2, 2015

The meeting was moved to PH 313 and was called to order by Maria Bachman at 3:05 pm.

Minutes of the November meeting were approved by a motion from Ellen Donovan and seconded by Ted Sherman.

Continuing Business

Lower Division/First Year Composition Realignment

- General support of proposal, though numerous questions still need to be addressed.
- Discussion on how staff load might be affected by administrative realignment. (LD Director noted that ENGL 2020/2030 does not require much responsibility on secretaries.)
- Suggestion that the 2000-level classes require different issues and might require more work on faculty. LD Direct and Chair confirmed that there are very few problems with 2000-level courses.
- Discussion ensued on who will “monitor” FTT’s and whether 2000-level lit course might increase the workload of Undergraduate Curriculum Director (current Upper Division Director).
- Question was broached regarding the possibility of undergraduate curriculum co-directors. Chair indicated that the Provost would not support any additional reassigned time or additional layers of administrative support.
- Suggestion was made that a GA be appointed to assist Undergraduate Curriculum Director
- Discussion on how FTT evaluations will be conducted after the LD/FYC realignment. (Currently, there are no specific guidelines regarding which LD classes should be observed for FTTs going up for renewal.)
- Discussion on allocation of release time for FYC co-directors
- Discussion of Gen Ed requirement (and sophomore-level literature courses) at other universities
- More discussion on gen ed literature courses (ENGL 2020/2030) and where those courses should be most appropriately administered: First Year Composition or Undergraduate Curriculum.
- Discussion of continuing/expanding graduate course offerings in rhetoric and composition and the teaching expectations of the FYC co-directors.
- Motion by Elyce Helford and 2nd by Kevin Donovan, “to vote on FYC proposal 2 with an amendment to set up an exploratory committee in Spring 2016 to recommend how and where 2020/2030 will be administered”. Discussion followed. Absentees have 48 hours to vote. Spirit is to strengthen the department not to take away from the 2000’s. Motion withdrawn by Elyce Helford so that ad hoc exploratory committee can be formed in January 2016 to assess how to best administer ENGL 2020/2030, before voting. Committee will issue recommendations to department on or before March faculty meeting.

Graduate Faculty: Guidelines and Expectations

- Discussion on the need for service to the graduate program. New requirements clarify expectations for all graduate faculty in English.
- Suggested an inconsistency - clarification on changes for doctoral degree with the 4 criteria- remove 4th bullet and have bullets 1, 2, & 3. (2nd bullet on page 1 at bottom)

- Vote on proposal to keep. 2nd by Ted Sherman. Absentee votes are due by Friday and can pick up a ballot from Regina.

English Major Assessment: Exit Exam format

- Handouts previously given out. Additional handouts given during meeting
- What to do about the Major Field Test. Elvira Casal reports that English majors are “not doing so great.” Test scores have been steadily going down over the past 2-3 years.
- Casal issued a request to faculty to begin start thinking about English major assessment, with the possibility of revamping “exit” exam.
- Will revisit in this pressing issue at the beginning of the Spring 2016 semester.

Directors were asked to email their reports/updates to faculty since meeting ran over.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40.

Next meeting: January 26, 4:15-5:30 pm