

Office of the Chancellor

WAC Meeting Minutes for October 23, 2015

Following are the minutes for the latest WAC meeting. Please contact me with any revisions.

Meeting Called to Order: 12:32pm

Attending: Alison Cardinal, Caitlin Carle, Asao Inoue, Kelvin Keown, LeAnne Laux-Bachand, Erik McDonald, Heather Porter

Absent: Ellen Bayer, Bonnie Becker, Nicole Blair, Eric Bugyis, Rich Furman, Cynthia Howson, Emily Ignacio, Margaret Lundberg, Sushil Oswal, Deirdre Raynor, Emma Rose, Riki Thompson, Ruth Vanderpool, Justin Wadland, Ali Walker Stromdahl

Announcements & Updates:

MAIS Steering Committee

The MAIS is gathering money to send grad students to academic conferences and the writing program will be donating to the fund.

Agenda Items:

W-course Guidelines Update

Asao is meeting the academic units to present guidelines created by the WAC, solicit feedback, and promote "A Writer's Reference", asking faculty to use it as a reference. In future, digital versions of the book may have rubriks, assignments, and samples of W-courses for students and faculty to use.

Asao has already met with Social Work, Deans and Directors, and SIAS where a couple key issues have been identified. There should be a discussion in Spring on how to proceed with additions and changes to the guidelines, requirements, and best practices.

Suggestions for promoting best practices might include:

- A symbolic award for exemplary W-courses
- Sponsoring faculty to attend the International Writing Across Curriculum Conference
- Broadening the range of papers and submissions for the IAS Haley Award
- Meeting with Ed Mirecki (International Programs)

DSP

Ideas that most people were interested in:

- Producing student videos.
- Changing language to make it more student-friendly. Students might not know what to do with the explanations and course outcomes.
- Integrating Highline's process for DSP.
- Upgrading the studio course.
- Providing two options: Stretch or Single + 111.

There may be a disconnect between the DSP and Core Orientation where students just choose a theme. It may be possible in Canvas to write the theme or course description and make it accessible

to students. Asao will contact Dierdre Raynor about adding a theme for 120 and Kelly Kledzik for 211.

WAC Work Group

A work group will be formed to assess writing in W-courses. While this year will be difficult, next year may be easier. Documents or writing will be used to gather evidence in writing course, not in teaching. Dynamic mapping may be incorporated into the reading of the papers, both qualitative and quantitative. The data should be fed back to teachers and students and would be a way to validate what has been agreed upon, finding opportunities for improvement and expansion. This information would be disconnected from the course and teacher. There are 63 W-courses on the schedule in Winter quarter and there are differences between what schools and programs ask for in upper-level courses. Consider providing a short student survey and asking teachers in the workshop how they would change the course. By the second or third year, we should have a better idea of where the W-courses are coming from.

Discuss data-driven workshop to identify student needs and gather feedback. Faculty Fellows last did a workshop like this in 2011. Senior faculty would have done this, but many new faculty haven't had the opportunity.

Action Items:

- Asao will contact Janie Miller about the IAS Haley Award.
- Asao will contact Dierdre Raynor about adding a theme for 120 and Kelly Kledzik about adding a theme for 211.
- Asao will find out if is possible to write the theme or course description in Canvas and make it accessible to students.
- Asao will speak with Advising about getting transfer students into 211.
- Asao will send Erik a draft of W-course guidelines.
- Discuss shifting away from theme-based courses to a Writing about Writing model.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:15pm