# **ASCRC Writing Committee Meeting**

Monday, March 6, 2017, 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m., GGB 225

Call to Order   
Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present: E. Baucom, S. Brown, J. Gallo, J. Pavilack, A. Ratto-Parks,   
*Ex-Officio Members Present:* N. Lindsay

Members Absent/Excused: N. Duke, G. Gardner, E. Holst T. Slater, B. Sweeney K. Webster, E. Wecker  
  
The minutes from 2/6/17 were approved.

Communication

* Chair Brown met with the Director of Literature, Professor Baker to discuss the problematic nature of the intermediate writing designation for LIT 110 due to Common course numbering. It would not be feasible for the department to change the course to 200-level because of the way it falls within the major. The course is a good entry for students into the Literature program and the intermediate writing status draws students to the course. However, it is problematic now that students transferring from other MUS institutions with the course will get intermediate writing credit. The department needs to continue to discuss the issue. Many of the members on the Writing Committee are uncomfortable with intermediate writing courses being offered at the 100-level.
* The Writing Committee should probably send a formal communication to advisors and admissions about the mandate from OCHE. Chair Brown will draft something. The communication from Deputy Commissioner Cech stated that compliance was to be effective (DATE).

## Business Items

* Professor Gallo has still not had a follow-up response from the instructor of RLST 369 Contemporary Traditions of Asia. The request is for the course to transition from intermediate writing to advanced writing. The Committee agreed that the instructor should be given one week to respond for consideration this cycle or resubmit next fall.
* The Committee still does not have student performance data on students exempted from the intermediate writing course due to transferring with 27 credits or more. The Committee would like to review the data before moving forward to officially eliminate this rule. It will also need to discuss the possibility of a test-out option.
* The information Consistency Workgroup has reviewed the various online resources. Chair Brown will make changes to the Teacher Resources site and Camie will make recommended changes to the items on the Writing Committee website.
* The Assessment Committee met is thinking about some structural changes to UPWA. There is very little overlap of faculty teaching intermediate writing courses and writing retreat attendees, so the full circle is not happening. The full day retreat is problematic to many writing instructors teaching multiple sections. Amy is thinking about piloting a smaller 2-3 hour writing workshop for intermediate writing course instructors who cannot attend the retreat. The retreat will be for faculty new to assessment including dual enrollment instructors and graduate teaching assistants. Amy has sent a survey to intermediate writing course instructors to determine when they would be able to attend a workshop. Amy has been working to change the tenure of the communications this year to get more involvement particularly from intermediate writing course instructors.   
    
  They are also thinking about shifting the timing of the retreat. The norming section will remain structured and strong. A set of papers will stay at the tables, but participants can rotate. Participants will be given instructions to indicate initial reactions to papers before scoring and to note strengths and weaknesses if they stand out. Essentially the retreat is training that makes faculty grading more efficient. The training should be something faculty can put on their IPR. It should also be able to satisfy service to the institution. The Committee discussed a different title for the retreat that more adequately reflects what is involved and what faculty can expect by attending. Amy is also willing to come to departments to provide information. Professor Pavilack thought it would be helpful to have Amy attend a History department meeting to provide information about the retreat. There are many instructors that teach intermediate and advanced writing courses once every several years.
* Associate Provost Nathan Lindsay asked that committee members take a look at the draft accreditation report and provide feedback. It provides a strong story for how the university works to improve writing. There will be an accreditation visit on May 1st and 2nd. They will be interested in how we are using data to inform practice.

## Good and Welfare

* The Library will be hosting two events on Thursday, March 9th.
  + From 9:30 to 11:00 am, Archives and Special Collections, in conjunction with the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, will be hosting a Women’s History Month celebration in the Mansfield Library’s Theta Rho Room. Two speakers, Beth Hubble and Caroline Patterson, will talk about women writers. There will also be an exclusive tour of Archives’ newest exhibit Women’s Words, Writings, and Reminiscences.
  + Digital Archiving will be taught by Professor Baucom on Thursday, March 9th from 3:00-4:00 in the Buckhouse Room, MLIB 284

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m.