# **ASCRC Writing Committee Meeting**

Monday, December 5, 2016, 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m., Skaggs 174

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

Members Present: E. Baucom, S. Brown, A. Ratto-Parks, T. Slater
*Ex-Officio Members Present:* G. Gardner, N. Lindsay, K. Webster
Members Absent/Excused: N. Duke, E. Holst, J. Gallo, J. Pavilack, B. Sweeney, E. Wecker

There was not a quorum so the 11/7/16 minutes were not approved.

Communication

* Professor Winkler resigned from the Committee. The Senate will attempt to fill her seat for spring semester.
* The subcommittee approved IRSH 380, Irish Women Writers. It was forwarded to ASCRC and also approved, so it will be on the Faculty Senate agenda this month. The Registrar’s Office was informed of the need for the spring offering.
* Camie added BMGT 205 Business Communication and JOUR 270 Reporting to the MUS Core Oral/Writing Communication category. She also informed OCHE of the Writing Learning outcomes of intermediate writing courses and provided a list of the courses. It wasn’t clear if they should be included in the MUS Core list because of the following line in the Oral /Writing Communication Category: “Composition, Journalism, Business Writing and Technical Writing generally satisfy the written communications component.”
* Maria Mangold sent an email with a transfer student’s transcript showing WRIT 201, College Writing II from Vanguard Univ of So Calif. It was unclear from the correspondence whether this required any action from the Committee. [Follow-up correspondence revealed that the information was sent to inform the Committee of the nuances involved in advising transfer students through the writing requirements. The student met the introductory writing requirement and is exempt from intermediate because he transferred with more than 27 credits. ]

## Business Items

* The Appeal Workgroup approved the online Technical Writing course for the Forestry Student to meet the intermediate writing requirement. Chair Brown informed Laurie Young.
* The two pending intermediate writing courses were approved by the subcommittee.

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| LIT 230 | Literary Histories: Atlantic Passages |
| LIT 240 | Genres, Themes, Approaches |

* Academic advisors are in favor of eliminating the 27 credit rule exception from intermediate writing. The committee needs to have a plan in place to clearly communicate the higher standards and a mechanism for addressing the confusion regarding LIT 110 transferred from other MUS institutions. The deficiencies of the course could be addressed in a 1-credit add-on taught by the library to cover information literacy for example. Director French will have more data after winterbreak. The issue will be discussed further in February.
* Subcommittees were created to review appeals and help with assessment. This will help with consistency and have a mechanism in place for various business items. Members of the Appeals Subcommittee include Professors Jess Gallo, Erin Baucom, and Grace Gardner. Members of the Assessment Subcommittee include Amy Ratto-Parks, Tammie Slater, Kelly Webster, and Associate Provost Lindsay.
* Professor Ratto-Parks provided a brief update regarding the initial analysis of the UPWA data according to the questions established last year. The majority of the students in the data set were first generation college students. Of 144 essays only 12 received scores of 3.5 or 4. Nine of these students had evidence of significant writing and AP credits. The majority of the essays received scores of 3.

It would be interesting to know were the students are from in terms of high school preparation and whether they are in-state or out-of-state transfer students. Education research shows students from urban areas graduate at a rate 3 times higher than students from rural areas.
* The Committee discussed whether a mechanism should be established for students to substitute an advanced writing course for an intermediate writing course.
* A workgroup consisting of Chair Sherrill Brown, Erin Baucom, and Grace Gardner was established to review the various Writing Committee documents and forms available online for consistency and needed edits.
* The Committee discussed the need for improving campus information regarding plagiarism. Some possibilities include offering plagiarism workshops, creating a chart similar to SKC’s that identifies the different levels of plagiarism and the consequence / remediation that includes links to resources. More communication is needed to ensure everyone has the same understanding. Director Webster may have time over the summer to work on the chart.

## Good and Welfare

* Director Webster commended Chair Brown for her work with helping Pharmacy students learn to writing appropriately for the discipline.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 p.m.