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Writing Implementation Committee, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Writing Committee Minutes 15 February 2011

Convened at: 4:05 p.m.

Present: C. Sweet, C. Ferradans, D. Mendez-Carbajo, M. Bushman, M. Coleman, J. Haefner (ex officio), Z. Drici

There were no revisions to minutes from the previous meeting.

A discussion of proposed revisions to the Writing Intensive flag ensued. In the flag description, “broader context of academic writing” was altered to “broader contexts of academic writing and public discourse.” Under Flag Goal #2, substitute “sophisticated” for “logical, complex”. Goal # 5, substitute “as applicable” for “where appropriate” and move this phrase up. Criteria # 2, substitute “expressive” for “persuasive”. Criteria # 3, change “will be graded” to “need be graded”.

There was some discussion of where the document should be sent next. MB will send it to all WI faculty for comment, and then send it to Curriculum Council. ZD noted that these revisions grew out of a coherent process—a workshop designed to catalyze development of a questionnaire for Gen Ed assessment, plus a meeting of a Writing Committee subcommittee.

CF brought up the issue of students who fail the Gateway twice; there doesn’t seem to be a clear procedure on dealing with these students. MB noted that the vast majority of those students drop out.

A discussion of notes by CF and Becky Roesner on proposed duties and functions of a permanent writing committee followed. Carmela and Becky generated a list of current and possible functions, and discussion centered on the feasibility and desirability of those functions within the existing committee structures of our institution. There was also a discussion of whether appointed or elected members would be better, the number of committee members, the length of terms, and the feasibility of including a student.

The meeting ended with a quick review of two applications for the Committee’s advertised teaching portfolio grants.

Next meeting: time and place TBA

Adjourned: 5:04 p.m

Submitted by: J. Haefner