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Writing Implementation Committee, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Writing Committee Minutes 11.2.2011

Present: C. Ferradans, C. Sweet, B. Roesner, M.A. Bushman, M. Coleman, J. Haefner

Convened: 4:05 p.m.

The meeting dealt mainly with a discussion of the Gen Ed lunch meeting on Writing Intensive courses and the implication of comments at that meeting for revisions of the WI flag and course criteria. M.A. attached a revision of that document, which led to a lengthy discussion of how to revise the draft to reflect the concerns expressed at the lunch meeting.

Most comments at the lunch meeting seemed to center around the number of pages required and how to adapt the general criteria and goals for specific disciplines. Scientific and creative writing were two specific disciplines that faculty felt were not well addressed in the draft.

Carmela argued for retaining the language of the original flag description, but adding a new sentence which indicates that WI courses will provide opportunities for research and imagination. M.A. also suggested that the new language should bolster the importance of writing to audiences; a phrase indicating that was suggested for the general description. The absence, in the flag description, goals and criteria, of any mention of encouraging students to pose their own questions was also discussed.

Committee members stressed that any draft needs tight tracking between the topics outlined in the Goals section and those mentioned in the general flag description. Several revision suggestions to achieve that were discussed. Consistency with other flag and Gen Ed categories was also emphasized.

There was a brief discussion about how M.A. might structure the Gen Ed lunch meeting on the Gateway Symposium slated for Nov. 8, and what issues she might bring up.

Adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Submitted by: J. Haefner