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Writing Implementation Committee, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Writing Committee Minutes 2.29.2012

Present: M. Bushman, Z. Drici, J. Haefner, D. Mendez-Carbajo, B. Roesner, C. Sweet

Convened at: 4:05 pm

The committee first looked at revising the Gen Ed Goals and Criteria Writing Intensive statement in light of comments at the lunch meeting devoted to this revision. Mary Ann and Joel provided some revisions based on that conversation.

A minor change to Mary Ann's revision of Goal #2 was suggested (delete "conversation", insert "dialogue").

The committee consensus was to strike "from electronic and print sources" from proposed Goal # 4. There was extensive discussion about the wisdom of including any statements about enrollment caps in the Flag Description. No clear consensus was reached, but there seemed to be some agreement that we should leave the sentence as proposed in the description and see what reactions it elicited.

There was also discussion about including the phrase "using writing as a tool for discovery and learning" in the goals; it is included in the description and it is typical for Gen Ed goals and criteria texts to include phrasing from the description in goals. This led to a broader discussion of Goal # 3, and the committee consensus seemed to be that we should revise the goal to reflect current goal # 2 more--that is, new goal # 3 should stress writing as a process, not simply revision, and in that way include invention and discovery.

The committee then moved to a discussion of grants for departments willing to develop learning outcomes statements for writing in their major and information literacy in their major. We seemed to reach a consensus that the process should be broken down into three stages (planning and organizing, outcomes-based workshops, and drafting and revising), with appropriate funding for individuals at each stage.

Adjourned at: 5:02 pm

Submitted by: J. Haefner