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Writing Implementation Committee, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Present: Mike Theune, Marcia Thomas, Chris Sweet, Joel Haefner, Illaria Osella-Durbal, Lynda Duke, Daynali Flores-Rodriguez

Convened at: 4:05 p.m.

Mike presented a draft of a survey to be sent to both Honors students and their advisors about the feasibility of a collaborative program between the Writing Program and Ames Library to support students pursuing an Honors project. There was a discussion about the format of such a Qualtrics survey—combining some of the questions, writing very specific questions that might call for a Likert response, and open-ended, textbox questions. Lynda suggested that oral communication support should be part of the survey. Joel commented that dedicated Writing Center tutors would be a useful resource to offer in such a program. Mike added that he thought a 2-hour write-in (or two) with Writing Center tutors present might be helpful. Daynali suggested encouraging small groups from similar disciplines might also be useful.

Mike then raised with the committee his task of reviewing Gateway syllabi, as stipulated by CC. Mike presented a draft feedback sheet that would allow him to quickly evaluate syllabi against the goals and criteria of the WI flag designation. Several suggestions were made by committee members for rewording or combining some of the categories of his draft feedback sheet. Lynda pointed out that the GW roster was still being developed, and that that affected when Mike might email faculty about the review process. Several members commented that it would be helpful for faculty to have the rubric before they submitted their syllabi for review.

The last agenda item concerned piloting an electronic portfolio. Mike commented that since both the Gateway Colloquium and the Writing Intensive flag would be assessed in 2015-16 as part of General Education assessment, it made sense to spend the 2015-16 academic year studying e-portfolio models and devising a detailed plan for a pilot e-portfolio, to be launched in the 2016-17 academic year. Mike proposed that a small subcommittee of the Writing Committee undertake this task.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Submitted by: J. Haefner