



2015

September 9, 2015

Writing Implementation Committee, Illinois Wesleyan University

Recommended Citation

Writing Implementation Committee, Illinois Wesleyan University, "September 9, 2015" (2015). *Minutes*. Paper 31.
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Writing Committee Minutes 9.9.2015

Present: Lisa Searing, Diego Mendez-Carbajo, Bill Hudson, Darryl Brown, Mike Theune (chair), Joel Haefner (ex officio)

Convened: 4:07pm

Mike began by reviewing the purview and scope of the Writing Committee, as described on the writing program website.

Mike then led a review and discussion of the Mellon Grant and its results, particularly the outside review and grant leaders' response to it. He pointed out, as per the report, that WAC best practices can help faculty and departments take ownership of Information Literacy (IL) issues in conjunction with writing. There then followed a general discussion among committee members as to what constitutes IL; reference was made to the outcomes statement crafted by IWU librarians. Mike advocated for using *They Say, I Say* (Graff & Birkenstein) as a way of normalizing faculty vocabulary about information literacy and its rhetorical applications. There was a brief discussion of points 3, 5, and 6 from the conclusions/recommendations of the report; Mike pointed out that point #6, concerning the digital liberal arts, was a long-range goal to be pursued.

As part of this discussion Mike also announced that the January pedagogy workshop would feature Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, and that a reading group, focusing on Graff's *Clueless in Academe*, would meet in mid-October.

Mike said he would likely ask the committee to review the Writing Program website for the next meeting, with the intent to strengthen it as a tool to advocate for a writing pedagogy on campus.

He also raised the question as to whether the Gateway syllabus review process should be amended. Darryl pointed out that CC also looks at whether classes meet the Gen Ed category pedagogical criteria. No recommendation was made at this point.

Other points Mike touched on:

- Flip the annual Gateway workshop.
- Determine if/how our learning outcomes and IL outcome statements match our assessment methodology.
- Joel: a non-credit class for one-on-one tutoring over the course of a semester?
- Effort afoot to provide programming for students pursuing honors research and post-baccalaureate awards
- Encourage faculty to teach writing about writing
- Plan an event for National Day on Writing (Oct. 20).

Next meeting: Wednesday, 23 September 2015, 4:00 p.m.

Adjourned: 5:00 p.m.