

MINUTES OF THE WRITING COMPETENCY SUBCOMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5241 North Maple, M/S TA 43
Fresno, California 93740-8027

Office of the Academic Senate
Ext. 8-2743

November 18, 2010

Members Present: K. Putirka (Chair), E. Hughes, B. Sethuramasamyraja,
S. Sivek.

Member Absent: C. Ogaja.

Visitors: John Beynon, Ellen Junn, Tina Leimer.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chair Putirka in Library Room #4164.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the Minutes of 10/22/10
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the Agenda as distributed.
3. Communications and Announcements.

There were none.

4. Discussion and Action Items.
 - A. EES 135 - Dinosaurs is approved as a W course, EES 135W.
 - B. We discussed potential changes to the UDWE (should we delete one of the two parts – objective or written portion?) with John Beynon of ENGL. More data are needed to determine and John will work with Tina Leimer to gather data that are needed.
 - C. The committee agrees to recommend moving up the UDWE and W course requirements to apply to Freshman and Sophmores (currently, most students complete the requirement in their Senior year).
 - D. Discussions indicate that both ENGL and departments across campus need to think through their responsibilities with regard to writing. There needs to be a broader understanding by all faculty about what can and should be achieved in ENGL 5A and ENGL 10, and what responsibilities fall on other departments.
 - E. Tina reminded us of her research that shows wide disparities in pass-rate among W courses.

MSC to adjourn at 12:00 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Writing Competency Subcommittee will be Thursday, January 20, 2010 at 11:00 a.m., Library, Room #4164.

Agenda.

1. Approval of the Minutes of 11/18/2010.
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Communications and Announcements.
4. Visit from Magdalena Gilewicz from the Writing Center.
5. Review of Syllabi from W courses with high (PLANT 110W) and low (GEOG 189W) pass rates.