MINUTES OF THE WRITING COMPETENCY SUBCOMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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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 Sophomores (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.

2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Communications and Announcements.
5. Review of Syllabi from W courses with high (PLANT 110W) and low (GEOG 189W) pass rates.