

SFSU English Dept. EAB Minutes
Wednesday Nov 2, 2016
11a.m.-Noon – HUM 485

Present: P. Abeywickrama, S. Arriaga, W. Christmas, S. Goen-Salter, G. Green J. Holland, J. Lederer, N. Lindeman, T. Lockhart, D. Olsher, L. Stec,

Old Business

1. Departmental RTP Policy (final revisions were attached in email) - Are we ready to put these guidelines to a departmental vote? YES by acclamation.
 - a. After the vote we will send to the Dean's office and Faculty Affairs for ratification.
2. News: "Foundations of Excellence" –John Gardiner Institute for Excellence has been hired (consultant who specializes in 1st year student experience).
 - a. This is funded in part by the CSU's Chancellor's office. Part of the graduation initiative, retention effort.
 - b. We lose 35% of students between 1st & 2nd year (nationwide average).
 - c. A group of other dept. chairs and faculty attended a day-long meeting on this; a number of committees were formed.
 - i. According to the Gardiner Institute, there are 9 components to excellence.
 - d. EAB members may be tapped for involvement, esp. CMS & Comp lecturers.
 - e. We need lecturers who work with students in 1st/2nd years.
 - f. Discussion ensued about possibly engaging speakers who know a lot about 1st & 2nd years.
 - g. Unfortunately, it's often non-academic issues that contribute to retention issues.
 - h. Sugie suggested faculty watch and take note of what is going on with students.

New Business

3. Faculty Commons Site (see link sent in email) –
 - a. Feedback for Larry Hanley (who put together the info about this site)? Would we use this?
 - i. We needed a platform to support faculty mentoring, conversations, etc. outside of the evaluation process.
 - ii. Faculty need a place to share materials, pedagogy.
 1. Just one more thing to do, or helpful?
 2. We'd need to invest the effort to post materials first
 3. Overall, it's a very good idea but there are way too many things going on (fb page, ilearn collaborative sits, CRAFT, etc.); possibly too many unless we refine this program.
 - a. If there's a way to use the site on a project-by-project basis, that might be the way to go.
 - iii. We should discuss this with Larry so he can respond to our concerns.
 - iv. People might participate according to their age group & facility with and engagement with different platforms.
 - v. Ilearn is one-way communication, and this could be a dialog.

- vi. Maybe this could be used as a place for department news, but more for social gatherings and internal events (rather than events the website lists, which is a more external platform) or asking a single question.
 - vii. FSMC has been looking for a way for faculty to collaborate, etc. and informally work together—maybe that committee could be in charge of overseeing this site.
 - viii. The consensus is that multi-section courses could really benefit from this site.
 - ix. AGREED - This site could also be a place to post drafts of documents that haven't been finalized/approved yet (shouldn't yet go on website).
 - x. A person can build “walls” on the site.
 - xi. English dept. would need to pay for the server for this site.
 - xii. It would help for there to be a seed of topic(s)/project(s), etc. so that people are prompted to visit at first.
 - xiii. AGREED that we would need to introduce this, possibly at a dept. meeting. And we'd need to have something interesting to show at the time.
 - xiv. Have Larry come to a Mentoring Committee meeting to demonstrate—perhaps even have a kiosk set up at one of the coffee meetings.
 - xv. DECIDED— Beta Testing during spring semester and unveil at late spring dept. meeting.
 - xvi. We could use it for 114s & Teagle committees.
4. WTUs for Large Courses – Larry brought this up at the last meeting.
- a. When we talk about WTUs in the CSU, why does enrollment not count?
 - b. What happens when someone teaches a huge lecture course?
 - c. Deans have a certain amount of latitude on this.
 - d. Internship courses carry a different designation.
 - e. More discussion and research is needed on this.
5. English Specific library acquisitions and language corpora
- a. Jenny L. reported that she uses the corpus of American English (online interface where you can search actual patterns of words); she is running up against search limits.
 - i. Jenny wrote the librarians to inquire and the librarians were discouraging—institutional licenses are \$1,000 & more.
 - ii. Librarians suggested bringing up the idea to the dept. as a whole.
 - 1. It would probably mean giving up a different subscription because of cost.
 - b. Our librarian got rid of literature online database this summer.
 - c. Each campus needs to purchase its own subscriptions even though we're all part of CSU (UCs don't function this way).
 - i. We need political push-back. CSU ought to be in a position to negotiate better contracts.
 - ii. DECIDED: Sugie will ask the other LCA chairs about this – if there's enough interest, maybe we can have the librarian meet with chairs at an

upcoming meeting & figure out a better way for CSU to support systemwide licensing.

iii. We should also check with Eric Talbert, LCA Development Officer.

6. End -of -Fall- Meeting with Dean & Holiday Party- Thurs., 12/15: 12:30-2 meeting, 3-5 party