

Reading Department Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2016

Attendees: G. Armao, D. Breckheimer, R. A. Cerofeci, M. Cheung, S. Corbin, C. Glover, R. Lewitzki, T. Lew (Dean), E. Geraghty (Associate Dean), R. Kistler (excused)

Changes to RWB

Pete Marcoux and Rose Ann Cerofeci reviewed the new course and discussed a few changes. The course is being submitted this week if approved by the department.

- The class will be 5 units
- The class will include 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of lab. The possibility of securing chrome books on carts for the class is being discussed. Students would be able to “check out” a chrome book for the duration of the course. This will create classroom / lab space options. It also is a nice alternative to the desktops because the instructor has more control.
- SLOs are the same as A & 84
- Specific writing requirements were added to the course outline. The specifics mirror A requirements.
- The class will be submitted as a permanent class rather than a pilot.

A few questions and concerns were raised:

- What happens to a student that is capable of passing the writing portion but not the reading?

A student can be placed in RWA or English 84 if the instructor feels that additional remediation is necessary. This will have to be worked out with the counseling staff. The program is running through FYE, so the first few years will not be a problem, but decisions on how to enforce instructor recommendations will need to be addressed. The possibility of passing all students was discussed. All (except those that fail due to incomplete work) would pass the class, and the students would be placed into either RWA or 1A at the end of the term.

- Will the class affect teaching load?

Yes. The class will affect full time and part time faculty. For the fall, instructors will carry two sections of RWB and one additional class. There are many changes associated with the creation of this class that will require scheduling and teaching adjustments. The department decided that a discussion about the many possibilities would not be productive at this time.

The department took a vote on RWB and all were in favor of moving the curriculum forward and offering four sections in fall 2017.

II English 82 final exams & SLOs

- Scoring issues

Parscore is about to die. The department needs to be reminded to have a backup plan for scoring of the final exam. One option is to have the students take the test online. This may be problematic because not all sections purchased the access code.

For the purposes of fall semester, Rose Ann will distribute a master copy to all 82 instructors. Individual instructors will be responsible for the proper disposal of the tests.

A training for all 82 instructors needs to be set up.

III Other Business

- Tom's retirement party will be held October 31 from 12:30-2:30 in the mail room.
- The holiday party will be at Gene's place on December 9th.
- Implementing a department chair will be part of union negotiations in June. The reading department is definitely interested in having a chair, but would like more information about the length of time one would serve and how much release time would be associated with the position.