

Minutes of October 9, 2007

WID/WAC Committee, Queensborough Community College Academic Senate

In Attendance:

Jeffrey Jankowski, Chair,

Margot Small, Secretary,

Arthur Coradetti, Administration Liaison,

Linda Stanley, Co-Director, QCC WI Program ,

Sandra Marcus

Julian Stark

1. The following students were approved for waivers.
Kristina Costake
Neide Godinko

2. The WID/WAC committee has been asked by the Steering Committee of the Academic Senate to consider a resolution proposed by the history department. The points are made in the resolution:
 - All courses in the Department of History would be designated as WI.
 - Class size in the Department of History would be limited to 30.
 - Faculty in the history department would have their teaching load reduced from 27 to 24 hours per academic year.
 - Faculty in the history department would train its members to teach writing intensive courses.

Arthur Coradetti noted that there were contractual issues that would prevent the reduction of the teaching load.

All members present opposed the proposal to increase class size: increasing the size to 30 would make it difficult for students to participate in class and for the faculty to effectively teach writing in their discipline; the faculty would have less time to review written assignments, review rewrites and deal with students on a one-to one basis. Linda Stanley recalled that originally WI courses had 20 students in each class; the class size was increased at the Administration's request because of financial considerations.

All present expressed conditional support for designating all history classes WI. There are reservations concerning how to train the additional staff to teach these courses in a WI manner, related to the fourth point in the proposal. Jeffrey Jankowski, Julian Stark, and Sandra Marcus expressed concern that students in the LA track, required to take two courses, would meet all their WI requirements by history courses and would not take other WI courses. Arthur Coradetti pointed out that advisement could encourage students to take WI courses in other disciplines in addition to the required ones. Linda Stanley said that requiring each department to

provide WI classes was a way to improve pedagogy and it would insure that students understood writing in that particular discipline.

The History department's desire to run the training courses was also addressed. Linda Stanley expressed concern that without the input of the QCC WI Program in the training, faculty would not understand the WI philosophy and she was also concerned about cooperation with the department. Margot Small also expressed such concerns. All members of the WID WAC committee agreed that a member of the history department should come to a WID WAC committee meeting to explain how the training would be conducted.

No vote was taken on the proposal. A vote will be taken after discussions with the History department.

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Small