Minutes WACC Meeting on March 2 2017

Present: Claire Novosad, Marie McDaniel, Matt Miller, Elena Schmitt

Guest: Liz Kalbfleisch

We had no new proposals to discuss this week.

We discussed the analysis presented by Matt about W courses taken by students who have graduated.

From the data, Liz suggested that since there is so much diversity we might want to focus on the goals of the W courses, based on skills, rather than behavior (word count, revision, etc.). We could come up with a pilot, propose changes, or look at an overhaul of the program structure. Marie proposed a survey to see what faculty and students want in regards to W courses (class size, proposal process, etc.).

We discussed a training certification program for instructors, so that they would be able to teach W courses, and problems associated with it.

We need to have a friendly structure for insuring curriculum integrity.

Develop a curriculum that is best for students and then be assessed. We discussed different assessment strategies, dependent on what curricular changes are made.

We plan on inviting Deb to a future meeting.

Possible agenda items are:

- Encourage connections with LEP, PRAC – perhaps using ‘written communication’ embedded in LEP as another means of building on skills
- Range of possibilities/changes for a new WACC program – what the parameters would, or could be
- Proposal process
- Types of assignments (writing goals) in W courses
- Assignment to assess writing goals
- Levels of W courses
- Proposed: 112, ‘200’ general W course, one required W in the department (meaning a reduction in the W courses required). The content would be variable, but a ‘writing shell’ (writing to learn vs learning to write).
- Survey
- Should W program exist if it cannot be revised in a meaningful way?