**EGU Meeting Agenda**

September 24th, 2021

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

[**https://zoom.us/j/95266234904?pwd=UHVhcHhrM0o1bEYxQ2M5Y2xCUmNYZz09**](https://zoom.us/j/95266234904?pwd=UHVhcHhrM0o1bEYxQ2M5Y2xCUmNYZz09)

**Password:** 3ngGr@dz

| **Officers Present:** | Hannah R., Alyx, Janelle, Claire, Hannah I., Mary, Mucktadir, Jazzie, Caleb, Anuj, Martin, Leah, Kelli, Sean, Thir, Amable |
| --- | --- |
| **Visitors Present:**  | Krista, Matt |

**AGENDA:**

**Co-Chair Discussion Items (Hannah R. & Alyx):**

1. Alyx
	1. Shelley email on 9/15: Provost has agreed to meeting with WP “and now we wait…”
	2. will attend next department meeting on 10/1
	3. will attend next EGU/WP meeting with Shelley on 10/5
2. ACTION ITEM: Please continue drafting questions for Lisel Folks for the Provost/WP meeting
3. Hannah - Council meeting re: WP Prefix Change - [Proposal linked here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nQUNhnkC7peUzlOKlzPy9998_jLJfccgjROGnnLxXrU/edit?usp=sharing)
	1. Faculty concerns regarding funding allocation to the WP & the WP leaving English Department in the future
		1. WP doesn’t want to lose professionalism by leaving a Department
			1. Some faculty fear a Dean could just make this happen anyway, citing the prefix change as a good reason. However, a program has to vote to leave a Department, and the Department has to vote to allow it, so a Dean shouldn’t be able to do this on a whim
		2. Currently, Student Credit Hour (SCH) funding - which is allocated based on the number of students taking credits in a given class- generates money for the WP, and also money from textbook royalties. Programs get money from tuition dollars, but the WP does not.
		3. A new budgeting model, called the AIB (an ‘all areas budget’) will come into effect next year. Many faculty do not want to vote on a Prefix Change right now because of the uncertainty surrounding the AIB and how it will change how programs are funded - pretty much no one has any information about it yet
	2. WP wants to avoid Colleges across campus creating their own first-year writing classes/gen eds. A prefix change might keep Engineering from trying to make their own 1st-year writing class, for example. Everyone in English + the WP all agree that it would be good to keep 1st-year writing in the WP, but some faculty commented that there is already nothing stopping a College from making their own courses in this way.
	3. Grads and undergrads would not be affected by the Prefix change at all in the short term.
		1. If the WP ever did split from English, that would probably affect people, but it doesn’t seem like something to worry about materially right now.
	4. Faculty want to strategize about how to work together, grow together, and understand what the benefits for English as a whole could be from the Prefix change, or from the Prefix staying the same

**Rep Reports**

* Secretary (Jazzie):
	+ No updates, it’s nice to meet everyone though :)
* EDI (Claire & Caleb):
	+ AIME meets next Monday (9/27) to discuss foundational premises of the committee and inquiries made since the semester began.
	+ Retaliation packet meeting pending.
	+ As always, reach out if you have a concern or question!
* WPC
	+ By Laws (Leah):
		- We met for the first time on Thursday 9/16 to review the current draft and talk about goals. Our main objective is to complete the bylaws and get them passed this semester.
		- Tentative timeline:
			* Currently revising - There isn’t a lot left to do since the voting procedures were passed in the spring. A lot of this work is making sure the document is cohesive and adding descriptions for the standing committees.
			* 10/1 - We will present and discuss our draft in the next WP meeting. This will initiate the (long) voting process.
			* 10/8 - I will bring the draft to the EGU meeting and open it up for feedback from GATs. (I can make the doc available ahead of time if anyone wants to read it prior to the meeting.)
			* 10/15 - We will send out the draft for advisory vote from WPC committees (1 vote per committee) with notes about feedback from the EGU and lecturer meetings.
			* 10/18 - If the draft passes in the WPC committee advisory vote, we will send it out for an advisory program-wide vote. It is important for everyone to vote in this stage since we have to have at least ⅔ of the WP participate to move forward.
			* 10/29 - The results of the advisory vote will be shared at the WP meeting. The WPC co-chairs will then vote (one vote per person, anonymous) on whether on not to pass the new bylaws. This vote is binding, whereas the previous voting processes I described were non-binding / advisory.
	+ Difference & Inequality (Janelle):
		- Had committee meeting on Sept. 14
		- WP by law revisions in progress
		- Committee will be focusing in climate change study
	+ Curriculum & Instructional Materials (Sean):
		- Won’t have a committee meeting with everyone there until next Friday, 10/1.
		- Meetings this semester:
			* October 1, 1-1:30 (kick off meeting); department meeting starts at 1:30
			* October 8, 1-2
			* October 22, 1-2
			* November 5, 1-2
			* November 12, 1-2 (I can’t make Nov. 19 due to another commitment)
			* December 3, 1-1:30 (semester wrap up); department meeting starts at 1:30
		- This committee is currently “responsible for revisiting outcomes alignment and the required instructional materials and technologies. Tasks include: creating and distributing instructional materials that includes evaluations and voting by WP constituencies on textbook changes; and revisiting outcomes for alignment purposes based on reporting from program assessments.“
	+ Assessment (Anuj):
		- The major task that the assessment committee does is to take a random sample of student portfolios from writing courses and then asks another random sample of lecturers and GATs to assess them. The goal is to better understand how well or not student writing reflects the writing program’s learning outcomes.
		- For last year’s assessment, the portfolios have been assigned to readers and once that data comes in, the committee will work to develop a report about larger trends they are seeing, based on which recommendations will be made.
		- If anyone has any questions they would like to ask the assessment committee please do share them with :)
		- Our Fall 2021 meetings will all be held via Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/87975510003>
* Tuesday, September 28, 3:00-4:00: welcoming new members, discussing projects for this semester
* Tuesday, October 12, 3:00-4:00
* Tuesday, October 26, 3:00-4:00
* Tuesday, November 16, 3:00-4:00
* Possibly an early December meeting, TBA
Anyone teaching Foundations Writing courses this year is welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!

* + Awards (Thir):
* CW (Dure):
* EAL (Eric): May be late for the meeting but will try to join. No updates from me, but still curious about the prefix change issue.
* LIT (Mary):
	+ The literature department has grave misgivings regarding **the prefix change**. Within the wider university, there are two criteria for determining who owns a course. This is to prevent what is called “poaching.” The two criteria are 1) subject area and 2) the prefix. So a change of prefix is (formally, according to university rules) halfway to changing who owns a course. Obviously, whoever owns a course has power over the course itself and who teaches it. As a department we want several things: 1) We want the matter to be tabled until Aurelie (the person the department voted for) returns from sabbatical and the WP can provide more information justifying the change. There is no real justification (that we have heard) for pushing this through and enacting it by fall 2022. 2) the WP needs to produce a report on what the administrative AND pedagogical advantages of the prefix change are
	+ **The department process for selecting TAs** applies to every English professor seeking a TA except for one. Kate Bernheimer handpicks three TAs for her Fairy Tales class and only selects CW students. This seems like a major break with procedure. Was EGU consulted? Or at least notified? Do we care? If so, what action do we want to take?
* RCTE (Martin):
	+ No new update, next Faculty meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 6th
* SLAT (Amable):
* Lit Grad Curriculum (Mary):
* Undergrad Curriculum (Hannah I.):
	+ The 9.17 meeting went very well!
		- We discussed SBS wanting to raise lean majors like PTW to more credit hours - essentially, w/o backing that up with money to hire more PTW staff, the UGCC sees this as a push for students to take more (not necessarily relevant) SBS electives. As the number of units needed to graduate has not changed, this push would be mostly money-making.
			* (Final vote: NAY)
		- We then discussed limiting independent studies to majors, minors, and certificate-earners in the English Department. This was originally brought up when two students pushed for an independent study with a Dept. professor over the summer; UGCC wanted to establish this rule as protocol for future cases. Now, students need to both a) be a major, minor, or certificate-earner in our Department and b) have successfully completed one course in the dept. past FYW (to discourage folks adding the major, taking the study, then dropping the major - my suggestion). Of course, students can always seek an exemption from this rule via the dean.
			* (Final vote: YEA)
		- Finally, we had a brief discussion on a) the categories for the gen-ed refresh (tabled for later) and b) Arizona Online courses as they compare to F2F courses and against new gen-ed guidelines (will continue this discussion in the future).
* GPSC (Kelli):
	+ It’s hard to get into the meetings. The calendar on the website does not work, and they don’t send out an open link (which is a problem). I emailed Shilpita and haven’t heard back yet.
* Social Chair (Mucktadir):

**Projects & Tasks:**

* ONGOING: Constitution Revision

**Conversations:**

* Re: fairy tales - Approach Kate and Christina about preferential treatment of TAs; at least have notice and justification go out to dept.
	+ Most importantly, why is Christina making these choices without EGU when they are written in as important to the process?
* Re: prefix change - slow the roll and provide documentation for the reasoning behind this change

**Questions:**

* ONGOING: What is a good funding model? What could help us, the GATs, as the structures shift?

**New Concerns & Homework:**

* ONGOING: Remind people of travel, research and professional development funding with low-stakes application processes!
	+ [EGU Travel Awards for “official university business” travel](https://english.arizona.edu/egu-travel-fund) - $325 to cover costs of presenting work at a conference
	+ [English Graduate Student Research Fund](https://english.arizona.edu/graduate-student-research-fund) - $500 for research travel/field work. Last year, the money could be used for local research costs (including buying books, transcription software, etc.). Need clarification on whether it can be used for both this year.
	+ [GPSC Travel, Research, and Professional Development grants](https://gpsc.arizona.edu/grantsawards). Three separate applications for different types of opportunities; up to $750 for eligible research travel or research project costs, up to $1500 for eligible Professional Development costs
* United Campus Workers is hosting direct action on September 30, at 5:00pm-6:00 at the Free Speech Zone (across the bike path from ML). The direct action is an opportunity to demand a mask mandate, vaccine mandates, testing for religious exceptions, and hazard pay for those required to work on campus. **WE NEED GRAD TEACHERS TO COME.** Please consider attending; please invite your students! Please invite your friends.
	+ Wear a mask.
	+ Bringing a sign is optional; wearing dark clothing is optional
	+ We will host a memorial (with candles) at the end to honors those lost to covid-19
	+ Water will be provided; electronic candles will be available
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