**EGU Meeting Agenda**

October 8th, 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:** | Alyx, Claire, Hannah, Mucktadir, Leah, Mary, Thir, Kelli, Jazzie |
| --- | --- |
| **Visitors Present:** | Don Rombach (captioner) |

**AGENDA:**

NEW MEETING LINK AND PASSWORD

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84645576304?pwd=R0dnNHVjQ2hidmtMcjBjVnR5QlUzQT09>

Meeting ID: 846 4557 6304

Passcode: RPx6Mu

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

1. Alyx
   1. Attended Dept. Meeting on 10/1
      1. Prefix Proposal Working Doc:<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nQUNhnkC7peUzlOKlzPy9998_jLJfccgjROGnnLxXrU/edit#heading=h.jcen15k99fgl>
         1. proposal designed to be ENGL/WP collaborative effort
      2. JP (Dean) and Amy Kimme Hea (Associate Dean) attended to discuss prefix proposal
         1. prefix change is Dept. decision—admin wants nothing to do with it
         2. admin restructuring decision (e.g., admin needing to step in because “we couldn’t get along”) would be disastrous for all
         3. Folks (Provost) and JP don’t want WP to move out of Dept.; JP unaware of any Dept. restructuring plans from Folks (e.g., separating WP from ENGL)
      3. prefix change is financial move to prevent WP subsidizing courses being taught
         1. Dept. (not programs) would own all of the prefixes
         2. WP isn’t an academic unit, therefore, cannot own its own prefix; any revenue goes to SBS
         3. prefix would help with logistics (advising, admin functions, etc.)
      4. brings up questions about the function of WP in relation to university
         1. What does it mean for WP which offers Foundations Writing (101/102, 107/108) to be in ENGL?
      5. faculty concern was the prefix change was an admin decision; history of admin decisions being handed down without Dept. input
         1. concern that new prefixes meant less funding for grad students/programs; Amy: “WP/Dept. budgets are separated not separate”
         2. growing fear that ENGL is losing departmental autonomy; SBS made decision to separate WP/Dept budget/other decisions happening at dean and provost level without Dept. input
      6. culture of distrust between WP/Dept.
         1. WP claims to be clearly articulating its needs and pushback is coming from other programs; want to honor autonomy of individual programs
         2. Programs claim real question is how to increase temp teaching budget to better fund grad students
   2. Attended EGU/WP Meeting w/ Shelley on 10/5
      1. Shelley still awaiting Provost response for Provost/WP meeting; will attempt one more follow-up
      2. Shelley confirmed prefix change wouldn’t impact GAT contracts
         1. confirmed GATs will receive base pay of $20k
         2. question/concern is how does Dept. make it happen (WP won’t receive any additional support from SBS)
         3. impacts availability of contract extensions (extensions unlikely, but if available will be limited)
      3. informed Shelley EGU is okay with the TA Conversation Form and doesn’t need to be involved in revising portfolio requirements
         1. thanked us for our diligence in evaluating TA Conversation Form
         2. [ACTION ITEM]: Confirm which reflection EGU suggests to remove: SCS or professional development?
            1. WP isn’t requiring us to use specific WP portfolio concerns in our TA forms, only suggests using the portfolio to complete it
            2. suggested keeping SCS reflection; we have more control over what WP sees in our portfolio
            3. if we’d rather upload SCS (instead of reflection), WP is “forced” to respond to information in them
      4. JP retiring (June 2022)—concern that new Dean wouldn’t respect Dept.’s desire for WP to remain in ENGL and move WP out of SBS entirely
         1. interim dean likely (for how long, who knows?)
         2. dean search is likely external; unsure if WP as a program will be involved in hiring process
         3. If call for grad position on hiring committee goes out, Shelley will push for a WP GAT to serve on committee
         4. concerned new deans writ large don’t understand how WP functions in relation to the university; Shelley wants to create a WP packet that informs deans of WP’s functions (personal project)
      5. EGU/WP collaborative chats can always be taken up later
         1. agreed timing wasn’t ideal for this semester
         2. Shelley envisioning chat as a one-time event instead of regular meeting; wants to think more broadly to WP/ENGL collaborative chat
      6. encourages GATs to attend Interim WP Director open meeting with Dev and Stacey (Oct. 15th)
2. Hannah

**Rep Reports**

* Secretary (Jazzie):
  + All approved minutes can be found on the EGU page [here](https://english.arizona.edu/english-graduate-union).
* EDI (Claire & Caleb):
  + AIME met this past week
    - Ultimately, the committee decided to be ready to step in if it becomes apparent that constituencies are not allowed the time to consider the prefix change and report back, as that is an access issue.
    - The committee still plans to create foundational guiding principles, but it has been nigh impossible to get everyone together
    - General reminder that school emails are public property that can be pulled from archives for specific circumstances
  + EDI met to compare notes
    - AIME updates (above)
    - [ACTION ITEM] We would like to propose a vote to add the best practices/conflict resolution document to the EGU website ([linked](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h9d3sg0O25-_WEcYSsWnrmwDAANlp6wBCDemH7TXQq8/edit?usp=sharing))
      * The original plan was to get Aurelie’s seal of approval, but her sabbatical and recent AIME concerns have suggested this may be a poor move at this point.
      * We think that hosting the best practices on the website (alongside constitutions and officer lists) would be a way to legitimize it among ourselves and possibly grant it enough gravitas to be used in conflicts with those holding power over us (given longevity).
  + As always, please reach out with constituent concerns as they come up!
* WPC
  + General:
    - 10/1 WP Meeting [Agenda](https://docs.google.com/document/d/164Plf3wEqAfqPoleXStzVzJVqbkdm76OL_B4BxD3P4E/edit?usp=sharing)
    - Next meeting is 10/29 at 3 PM
  + By Laws (Leah):
    - [ACTION ITEM] I would appreciate any feedback on our [Bylaws Draft](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H84SxS9AK0jx_XUfmSLbm6AiPGPW7wX_Bq2WdvNjcv4/edit?usp=sharing) from you all. I have been asked to draft a response with some feedback from EGU / GATs.
    - We are making some final adjustments to the voting process language to make it clear that there are three steps involved, but this will be done before we send it to WP committees next week for the advisory vote.
    - These [slides](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Uv8sFq2DiCnQRHHtbXdELpOo437ev7SSG-Xp4kv7WLw/edit?usp=sharing) also explain the voting process that will be taking place over the next few weeks.
  + Difference & Inequality (Janelle):
  + Curriculum & Instructional Materials (Sean):
    - We held our first meeting today, 10/8, and largely set plans for using this semester to refine the committee’s OER instruments before presenting them to the wider faculty as a collated resource in the spring, at which time feedback will be solicited (via Google Forms) and the resource revised. Currently, the committee views this collated resource (a searchable Google Sheet) as an imitation of the writer's handbook. A key goal of the committee is to sort out sustainable OER for the writing program’s faculty in the long term (i.e. ensuring the resource doesn’t link out to web pages that deteriorate over time). Much of the current work is concerned with gathering and refining *content*.
    - I inquired about whether the writing program has or will solicit student voices on OER/textbooks, but it was suggested this *might* come substantially later in what is a “slow-rolling process.”
    - Our next meeting will be held Friday, 10/22/21.
  + Assessment (Anuj):
    - Nothing new to report this week. We are still reporting the same stuff as last time. Portfolios are currently being read by readers. Once that data comes in, the assessment committee will start analysing it and then report patterns they see in the sample, based on which recommendations will be made for next year’s curriculum etc.
    - [Here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OyRuyVDmmNdJmI5ERoWisrYJbEqn-vgBsqfOA_wAuw8/edit) is the agenda for our next meeting in case anyone is interested to come!
  + Awards (Thir):
* CW (Dure):
* EAL (Eric):
* LIT (Mary):
  + Much time is still being spent in literature meetings discussing the proposed prefix change, which is frustrating for the faculty as they have their own departmental concerns that keep getting pushed to the wayside (namely, supporting graduate students and hiring). The general consensus about the proposed prefix change is that more time is needed to discuss (as a department) the probable and potential outcomes. The literature faculty, as a body, sees no reason why the proposed prefix change need be a priority.
  + Lauren Mason appreciates our swift response to the TA issue we discussed last time, so thanks all (especially Hannah Rego)!
* RCTE (Martin):
  + [In the meeting, the single course offered in the spring is brought up - RCTE students must go outside their program to take full course credits to maintain stipends. This course was also offered last spring, so some people may not have access to any courses in the program in the spring.] -- the concern that nerfed the meeting
    - The lingering concern is also how many RCTE professors are in admin positions and have little time for teaching/advising concerns
* SLAT (Amable):
* Lit Grad Curriculum (Mary):
* Undergrad Curriculum (Hannah I.):
  + I received an invitation to the faculty meeting last Friday from Dennis Wise, whom I emailed to ask to attend so that I could better understand the conversations at UGCC. I assume this is an ongoing invitation, but I’ll be meeting with him next Monday to discuss the Monsters course, so I can ask then. Otherwise, no updates with current UGCC; our next meeting will be on 22 October.
    - Sharonne Meyerson’s email to the English Dept. grad students says “This year we’re accommodating a new departmental policy that was developed with EGU input in the undergrad curriculum committee (UGCC) and discussed by the department Council.” - I just want to make clear that this decision preceded my involvement in UGCC.
* GPSC (Kelli):
  + Thanks to your support I am on the ballot for at-large representative. There will be a vote (current board voting) at the next meeting 10/14. Hopefully, I can get a link to the meeting.
* Social Chair (Mucktadir):

**Projects & Tasks:**

* ONGOING: Constitution Revision
* ONGOING: EGU Archive Organization (Alyx & Claire)

**Conversations:**

**Questions:**

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

**New Concerns & Homework:**

* Is anyone receiving emails from Shelley requesting to meet and discuss textbook opt-out rates in their sections?
* Matt Tuozzo is experiencing financial hardship due to unexpected caretaking duties; please consider donating to his [GoFundMe](https://www.gofundme.com/f/my-partner-has-cancer-and-is-dying-i-need-help?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf%20share-flow-1&fbclid=IwAR3rCWngEQRhC4z4mXyCjKF9TmMXFQhucFcJRPwL7c3_ecrZET8Bc8xmoSo)
* 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