# EGU Meeting Agenda

**Date: 2/7/2020**

**Time: 4:00 PM - 5:10 PM**

**Place: 1515 E 1st Street**

**Officers Present:** Kathleen, Claire, Marisa, Dwight, Lizzy, Martin, Jason, Sally, Kelli

**Visitors:** Leah Bowshier

**1. Approve meeting minutes from 1/24/20 :** <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YXzIg1n07UUHLxTF5Ec_JULqs6vmsj4IxzZkWcmfx2w/edit?usp=sharing>

**2. Rep reports:**

* Secretary (Claire): no news
* First-Year (Martin): no news -- RCTE handbook is interesting -- how do we get everyone together in a low-stakes way?
  + Movie night?
  + Percentage night to fundraise? (combo with the EGU night)\*\*\*
    - Amano’s? Rubio’s? Anywhere else?
* WriPACA:
  + Marisa/Leah (Strategic Planning):
    - Vertical Curriculum plan (101 → 200-level → into the majors)
      * Making Foundational Writing a four-year plan that starts general (freshman year) and follows into majors
        + Writing Across Curriculum
      * Will fall in year 4 or 5 in Strategic Plan
        + There is no hard method or strategy for how it will be implemented at this stage -- bring questions
      * Still condensing feedback from all of last semesters’ strategic planning meetings
      * Meeting Tuesday (2/11) to condense and will afterwards make available in ML361 to give feedback over a week, as well as a digital version for feedback (hopefully)
      * Still outcomes-based? Or more prescriptive?
      * It is unknown whether WP instructors would be teaching all courses or mostly 100/200 courses
        + What will happen to the PTW major/classes?
        + The question is asked whether writing instructors would be required to teach writing in a discipline they have not studied (engineering, for example)
        + Lecturers would also be affected -- they have thoughts/opinions
  + Jason (Bylaws):
    - Jason teaches during the meetings; trying to sort that out
    - Reviewing Teaching Symposium/considering major processes -- if you have strong opinions, please come to Jason with concerns (in person or email)
      * Should the program use binding or non-binding votes (when should the outcome of the vote be binding or advisory)
        + Is the vote a feeling or a law, and when is it the one or the other?
        + A recommendation for the future is to require condemning votes require written justification should the actor go against the -- I think this is a recommendation for the future bylaws
    - Main questions: Who gets to vote in the Writing Program, for what, and to what extent?
    - By-laws must accord with the English dept by-laws and are meant to be a louder voice in the department
      * For example, financial transparency is against English Department by-laws, so the writing program cannot ask
    - By-laws can be found on the website (link later) -- <https://english.arizona.edu/faculty-staff-resources>
  + Kelli (SLOs):
    - Discussion of last meeting’s topics: decided to bring the language forward to WriPACA instead of nitpicking language at this state
      * Outcomes are testable (ABCs are descriptors of the outcome)
    - There is an email imminent about the motion, so pay attention and should you have feelings, thoughts, contact your voting member
    - Do the students need to see the ABCs on the syllabus?
      * May make the portfolios easier to students
      * Concise language
    - There was a desire to weave WAC/WID into the goals as well, but that is not a current concern - consider these things for next semester.
    - The feeling in the committee is to keep things simple/similar for instructors, but creating Goal 5 took 4F descriptor out and added three more (only two additional)
    - (It might make better sense to introduce WAC/WID in a few years when this strategy gets underway)
* EAL (Aleksandra): No updates because there was no meeting. Won’t be able to attend because of the SLAT conference.
* CW (Suyi): not present
* RCTE (Zack): No updates. Won’t be able to attend the meeting.
* Lit Grad Curriculum (Dalia): No updates. I won’t be able to make today’s meeting.
* Lit (Laura): Litfac met last week and discussed changing the Comps exam to take home. They’re hoping to bring it to a vote by the end of Feb. Will continue to discuss the exam at next week’s meeting.
* GPSC (Dwight): no report
  + Did insurance for dependents/dental come up?
    - Not yet - to be brought up
      * perhaps similar to lecturers’ plan (tentative)
  + Next meeting is next Monday (2/10)
* SLAT (Nina): SLAT Roundtable happening all day today !!
* EDI (Elizabeth & Ashley):
  + At the meeting with Aurelie (2/5), we brought up inequities in how international GTAs are taxed on the ‘award’ payment → She said this is already being worked on for future semesters. I’ll keep following-up on this.
    - Contracts must be honored for this semester, but the future is in mind and conversation
* Undergrad Curriculum (Sally): still waiting to meet, no news
* Social Chair (vacant)

→ what’s the purpose of the notice of appointment?

* Perhaps part of the new pay system, it is a way to alert people legally about the pay shift (0.5 FTE → 0.25 FTE + fellowship)
* This may just be a new system quirk/hiccup

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**3. Co-Chair report:**

* ***ENGL Dept. Council Meeting (1/31) —***
  + Voted on Steph Brown’s track conversation (overwhelming yes)
  + Nominated professors for service positions (APR and P&T committees)
  + Program Directors’ updates
  + Aurelie confirmed that the 18th-century Lit hire line is safe
  + Discussed SBS deficit and ideas for recruitment and retention
  + Tom Miller & others talked about mechanisms for holding the upper admin accountable for their “admin bloat” and mismanagement of funds
    - In short, hiring too many admin but cuts happening to ground-level
* ***Meeting with Aurelie & Lizzy (2/5) —*** 
  + Discussed Co-Chair compensation (b/c EGU recruitment and retention)
    - Needs to confirm with business office
  + Discussed how the budget affects the Temp Teaching Budget, which will most likely impact undergrad courses in Lit, CW, and PTW
  + Discussed WP course caps and 2-1 as part of budget concerns; Aurelie is optimistic and believes the admin don’t want to cut either b/c they’ve been bragging about both (SBS’s reasons)
    - Recruit!!!!!!! - Erin Whittig is heading the research
    - In the next calendar year, they will need data on 2:1 course load
      * Do studies/research
      * The opening argument was that people would have the time for teacher research and do their work (requiring fewer extensions)
      * Another is that GTAs are first-line examples of English to students (having more time to dedicate to English and better training in Preceptorship would aid)
  + Brought 2-1 payment/financial aid stuff to Aurelie’s attention, esp. international student concerns
  + Discussed that there needs to be an administrative eval of preceptorship teachers that don’t rely just on TCEs. B/c GTAs are most students’ first interactions with the Dept of English, the department writ large has a stake in how well GTAs are prepared to teach in the Writing Program
  + Discussed the potential options for WP Director/Assoc. Director hiring processes, but there have been no confirmations yet

**4. Our Current Projects:**

* EGU constitution updates
* EGU recruitment and retention efforts
* Participants for WP 19-Course-Cap Task Force
* Keeping tabs on 2-1 pay updates, esp. for international GTAS
* Keeping tabs on preceptorship and other accountability issues
* Preparing ourselves for WP Director and Associate Director hiring processes (probably later this semester, over the summer, and/or into next AY)