

E 306 controversy continues

English course will be offered at least one more year

By **THANHHA LAI**
Daily Texan Staff

English 306 will be alive for at least another year — despite a proposal to drop it — but English 346K will have to wait for its possible revival.

Joseph Kruppa, chairman of the E 346K committee and associate chairman of the Department of English, said there will be no changes in the English courses offered for the 1986-87 academic year, regardless of whether the English proposal is adopted.

"It would be too late to change anything because the (fall semester) course schedules are being printed already," he said.

Alan Gribben, committee member and associate professor of English, said the proposal, originally offered at the end of last summer, calls for the University not to offer E 306, a required beginning composition course.

The proposal also calls for bringing back some sections of E 346K, Writing for Different Disciplines, and offering new lower-division writing courses.

If E 306 is dropped but still required, students can satisfy the requirement by examination, transfer of credit from another school, a summer course at the University or a course taken through a UT extension.

Kruppa said the proposal is being reviewed by the UT administration and is scheduled for a future University Council meeting.

Gribben said Robert King, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, endorsed the proposal last semester.

"We only have in mind to have it (E 346K) available in a very small way," Gribben said. "It would not take

care of the many thousands of students who need a writing class."

James Kinneavy, professor of English, said the University offers one of the best freshman composition courses in the state and said he does not like the idea of E 306 being taught by some "fly-by-night" professors through a UT extension.

"They would just be consultants without any voice in the faculty," Kinneavy said. "They won't have any teaching training."

Kinneavy said an alternate proposal by English professors will be presented to the University Council when the council looks at the original English proposal.

Kruppa said the idea of receiving credit through another school is nothing new. He said he is optimistic the proposal will be approved.

Gribben said King sent the proposal to deans of other colleges, and said the first responses have been favorable.

The final decision on which English courses will be required for students is made by the dean of each college, he said.

The proposal is designed to encourage other colleges to also provide writing courses, which will help take the pressure off the Department of English, Gribben said.

"The University is so large and complex that it is difficult for one department to handle all the students."

Kruppa said if the proposal is approved through all the administrative steps, students who are between catalogs that list different English requirements will be allowed to substitute classes.

Cunningham defends student government

By **KEEFE BORDEN**
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University President William Cunningham defended UT student government during a question-and-answer session with students in Beauford H. Jester Cafeteria Tuesday night.

"Student government I think can be very helpful to the students," Cunningham said. "It represents one more vehicle that can be used to represent student's needs to the University administration."

But Cunningham said the final decision must be left to the student body. "I think the basic decision of whether you have a student government or not is in the end the students'," he said.

The freshman English course, E 306, "really ought to be taught" in high schools, Cunningham said.

An English department proposal

calls for the course to be dropped from fall and spring schedules, but students would still have to get credit for the course. Students may either take the course during a summer session, place out or transfer credit from another university.

Cunningham said the Department of English has not reached a final decision about the course.

"That doesn't mean that students who come to this campus who don't qualify ... that we wouldn't make something available for them to take that course here."

The Freshman Council, the Faculty Involvement Committee and a student group on the fourth floor of Jester West sponsored the event, which attracted more than 84 students, said Mary Daigle, Jester assistant coordinator.

Tammy Broome, psychology junior and president of the Freshman

Council, said the organizations had wanted to meet Cunningham since last October, but were informed that Tuesday was the earliest date possible because of his busy schedule.

"Part of our aim is to bring faculty to Jester Center," said Bubba Massey, assistant coordinator for Jester. The event will "let him have the chance to hear students' concerns and questions," he said.

Cunningham refused to comment on whether the Board of Regents should divest UT System funds from companies operating in South Africa. He said he would have "a more positive effect" by privately revealing his opinion to "other individuals."

Cunningham said higher tuition has cut out-of-state student and foreign student enrollment.

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