

Freshman English Policy Committee Meeting

October 7, 1977

Calhoun 323, 3:00-4:00

Members present: Kinneavy, Cameron, Ruskiewicz, Haney, Wainwright,
Creel, Henry

Agenda: (starred items deferred)

- Approval of minutes
- Standing committee reports:
 - Textbook
- * Staffing proposal
- * Grade inflation
- Apprentice program
- * Freshman Office research projects
- * Continued use of the ECT

1. The minutes of the meeting of September 30 were approved as distributed.
2. Tom Cameron reported that the Triumph of Style would be kept for E 307 if the publisher can guarantee that it will not go out of print in the immediate future. Kinneavy suggested that we call the publisher's representative right away and clarify that issue. Cameron also reported the textbook committee's indecision about the short story/short novel anthology, noting that the Norton Anthology and Fiction 100 seem about equal in desirability. The committee authorized him to circulate a recommendation during the following week when the decision is reached.

Cameron also asked for guidance from the policy committee in the selection of texts for E308, in that there is neither an authorized syllabus for the course nor a concrete description of it. Kinneavy said there is a good description of the course in the Faculty Senate Minutes of some years back, and that he would locate it. He further suggested that, in the absence of a current syllabus, the textbook committee use the last one issued by the Freshman Office.

3. Jim Creel gave a thorough summary of the results of the questionnaire circulated by the ad hoc committee on the Apprentice program. After citing figures for each of the items on the questionnaire (these results will be filed in the Freshman Office in the permanent collection of minutes), Creel offered the following recommendations from the committee:
 1. that we work to avoid duplication among the counselling, E398T, and apprentice programs;
 2. that we arrive at a new terminology for the current "Master Teacher" designation;
 3. that each apprentice teacher be required to sit in on an E307 class as well as an E306 class;
 4. that we issue guidelines for use of the apprentices to the present master teachers;
 5. that future apprentices be required to start out the semester observing the master teacher, but that at some point in the semester be allowed to take charge of the class.

In discussion the committee arrived at the following conclusions:

1. Duplication should be avoided.
2. Master teachers will henceforth be called supervising teachers (ST's in these minutes).
3. Apprentice teachers (AT's) should observe at least the first few weeks of the E307 course.
4. Kinneavy's office will send out interim guidelines for use during the current semester, with revised instructions to be issued later.
5. The committee acted as a committee of the whole to discuss the last item. The comments follow:

Creel--As in secondary school teacher training the AT's should start out watching, and then at some point begin actual teaching. ST would then supervise the apprentice, overseeing the lectures, checking over the papers, etc.

Haney-- Should the AT take over the class early in the semester?

Henry--Wouldn't so many duties so early in the semester be too much for AT's?

Haney--If AT's grade all the papers for a class, they need to be teaching the class.

Henry--Changing teachers would disrupt the class. (She noted a recent experience to prove her point)

Kinneavy--Substitute teachers are undesirable in a college class.

Creel and Wainwright--If the student understood from the start what the procedure was to be they would not object.

Henry--The students would not respect the authority of the inexperienced teacher if they understood the procedure from the beginning.

Haney--Team teaching would solve the problem.

Cameron--TA could be in charge from the first but helped by the AT.

Kinneavy--We can't divorce this from the 9-hour course load requirement which Sledd objects to for TA's. Also, Hostenback would probably object to our giving AT's control over the class. The proposal is a good idea but it would be difficult to get legislative approval.

-no decision-

Kinneavy--Send out new questionnaire to get additional information and opinions from TA's, 398T teachers, supervising teachers, and counselors.