Minutes
Writing Liaison Committee - April 17, 2012


Old Business:

- Preparations for May 9, "Kick starting Your Summer Writing Project" workshop
- Availability of funds for a second paid professional development workshop in May.
- WAC budget and goal-setting for next year.

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Notes

Jumpstarting Your Summer Writing Project

Confirmed Presenters

- Beverly Army Williams (English) how to use the treadmill journal for academic or creative projects (but is open to doing other topics – leads creative writing workshops in the community)
- Joyce Hayden - creating your own summer syllabus (in which you schedule writing session times, specific writing exercises, and research from other texts on your topic).
- Leah Neilsen - Planning a poetry project
- Robin DiAngelo - Planning a book project
- Question: one more academic writing person, perhaps from another discipline?

Participants – tentative (10)

- English, education, psychology, criminal justice, world languages, and staff members

To-do list:

- Reminder email to facstaff
- Food order
- Creative writing books for raffle
- Create a packet of resources for participants

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Uses for additional funds:

- Helping Your Students Write Better Science Lab Reports – Assignment Swap
- Making Peer Review Work For You Workshop Redux?

You're invited to participate in the popular Writing Across the Curriculum workshop "Making Peer Review Work for You," a paid professional development
opportunity sponsored by the Writing Liaison Committee, Academic Affairs, and the Reading and Writing Center and led by Chalet Seidel and Catherine Savini.

Tues, May 22 from 11-2:30 p.m., lunch included

May is a great time to reflect on the successes and challenges of the previous semester and decide what changes might be implemented in future versions of a course. One way to improve student engagement in any course is to use peer review. Peer review is a teaching tool that can be remarkably effective or can go horribly wrong. When it works, it teaches students to work collaboratively and motivates them to write a rough draft (which ultimately leads to a better final paper) without requiring endless hours of feedback from us. When it doesn't work, it can feel like a waste of time, at best. This hands-on workshop uses peer review as a starting place for a broader reflection on assignment sequencing and design. Besides presenting principles of effective peer review implementation and strategies for avoiding peer review pitfalls, this workshop will give participants time and support to think holistically about one of their own courses and begin planning for the next time they teach it. Participants will be asked to bring a syllabus and assignment descriptions from a class they’ve taught recently and plan to teach again. Participants will leave this workshop with informative handouts, a reader, a revised assignment, and a peer review plan.

Next year – endless possibilities:

- Meeting with Andy Bonacci on May 9
- Faculty Fellows
  - Read Engaged Writers, Dynamic Disciplines
- Grants for two participants in WAC workshops to attend a WAC conference
- January Workshop