Minutes of the Engineering Undergraduate Studies Committee (EUSC)
March 5, 2015

Present, EUSC: Masten (ENE), Hoole for Rothwell (ECE), Genik (AES), Brereton (ME), Lee (CHEMS), Wolff (DE), Al Dhaneem (Student)

Absent, EUSC: Mahapatra (ECE, UCC), Owen (CSE), Liao (BAE), Rothwell (ECE), Ruiz (Student)

Also present: Pease (DE), Idema (DE), Jeff Grabil (WRA), Julie Lindquist (WRA)

1. Agenda: Approved

2. Minutes of February 19, 2015 were approved

3. Tier One Writing (WRA 1xx) proposed changes were discussed with guests, Jeff Grabil and Julie Lindquist from the department of Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures (WRAC).

The department was founded in 1944 as a Writing and Speaking Department, but by the 1970s, faculty were largely American Studies specialists even though they were tasked with teaching first year writing. Courses were at that time ATL (American Thought and Language). Grabil and Lindquist have led a long effort to move the program back toward focusing on teaching writing. Presently, they offer a selection of course topics such as Law and Justice, Ethnic and Racial Experience, Women in America, etc. However, instructors do not always stay to the topic, and students largely choose topics based on class time and location.

The proposal is to offer one single course in lieu of the topical selections.

Grabil and Lindquist emphasized that more feedback and revision needs to occur in the class to achieve intended outcomes. They also noted that the learning goals are set (and were distributed to the committee), but there remained flexibility in the details.

The meeting was one of a number of informational meetings being held in the various colleges; no action item is on the table at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas F. Wolff
Secretary