

CLUSTER AGENDA

August 20, 2014

10:45am – 12noon

Lake Worth Campus

ITEM 1. Welcome

Discussion: Cluster was welcomed back by Chair Victor Gent.

Data/data source: n/a

Action: n/a

ITEM 2. Approval of minutes from March 25, 2014 meeting.

Discussion: n/a

Data/data source: Minutes presented online by previous Scribe Joe Millas.

Action: The cluster approved the minutes by online acclamation.

ITEM 3. Over the past two-three years, there has been an increase in the number of instances in academic dishonesty. Because there is not one standard college policy that clearly identifies the student consequence for academic dishonesty, more issues seem to increase in the equitable treatment of students. Therefore, we are requesting that each discipline/program cluster develop one standard policy for the consequence of academic dishonesty. The policy should be approved by the cluster by the October 15 Development Day, for time to have appropriate review by the college General Counsel and inclusion in the 2015-16 Student Handbook and Catalog.

Discussion: Cluster was unclear if item directs cluster to develop a cluster-specific policy or if cluster is to develop a college-wide policy. Cluster had many concerns regarding the implementation of academic dishonesty policies. Issues raised included: why a student who is failed for academic dishonesty is permitted to withdraw from a course so a “W” is recorded rather than an “F”; the lack of a definitive process that would ensure due process; the importance of relying on the professional judgment of professors; and the importance of academic freedom for professors in the classroom. Associate Dean Sheila Scott-Lubin told cluster this was about the process and stressed the need to be consistent in the application of whatever academic dishonesty policy is developed. The cluster is concerned a standard academic dishonesty policy may encroach upon academic freedom of individual faculty members.

Data/data source: n/a

Action: The academic dishonesty policy of the speech cluster is to adhere to explicitly stated consequences for academic dishonesty as articulated in each faculty member's syllabus, which may include resubmission of assignment, failure of assignment, and up to/including failure of course.

ITEM 4. General Education Assessment

Discussion: Cluster discussed the implementation of the general education assessment developed in Spring 2014. Several cluster members reported having attended other meetings where it was indicated that the General Education committee would be reviewing the revised instruments in Fall 2014, the same term cluster is implementing the instrument. Cluster should proceed, with the understanding that if deficiencies are found in the instrument, cluster would then need to revise the instrument and retest in Spring 2015. Discussion about the assessment of other SPC 1017 learning outcomes followed.

Data/data source: n/a

Action: Cluster will implement SPC 1017 communication apprehension general education assessment (revised by cluster in March 2014) in Fall 2014 semester, submitting results as per directions from the General Education committee (forthcoming). Leonie Escoffery, immediate past chair, will e-mail cluster the assessment as approved. Cluster will add a review of all SPC 1017 learning outcomes to the October 2014 cluster agenda.

OTHER. Announcements

Lizbeth Martin announced *The Beachcomber* is hosting the Student Publisher's Association for a conference October 16-17 in Boca Raton. They are currently seeking session speakers. Lizbeth Martin was also commended on chairing the First Annual Boca Black Film Festival this summer. She looks forward to another successful event next year.

Cluster welcomed Kim Kamuca, who has a one-year full-time faculty appointment.

Cluster congratulated Megan Tomei on her summer wedding.

Lori Crane moved that the meeting be adjourned. David Rossman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 am.

Attendance:

Victor Gent (Chair)

Marcie Pachter (Scribe),

Lori Crane,

Leonie Escoffery,

Sharon Martin,

Steve Frishman,

Michelle Biferie,

David Rossman,

Megan Tomei,

Kim Kamuca

Guests: Sheila Scott-Lubin

Absent: David Childers

Submitted by:

Marcie Pachter, Scribe

c. Minutes Distribution List