



## **PSYCHOLOGY CLUSTER MEETING MINUTES**

**Cluster / Psychology**

**October 29<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**1:00 PM**

**SS 115**

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Dr. Andrew Blair prior to this meeting had forwarded three agenda items to Dr. Roxanna Anderson, cluster chair for the meeting. Also Dr. Maria Francisca Arbona also forwarded one agenda item to Dr. Anderson.

The meeting came to order and Dr. Blair began discussions about his three agenda items:

### **ITEM 1 General Psychology Textbook Update**

**Discussion:** Dr. Blair inquired whether to use for all adjuncts on all 4 campuses the DSM-5 update version of the Wade & Tavris text Invitation to Psychology 5<sup>th</sup> edition at the beginning of the Fall 2014 semester.

**Action:** Following some discussion, the cluster decided that because this wasn't an abnormal psychology text in which there would be major impact from this DSM-5 update and that primarily only one chapter in the General Psychology text would be affected, to maintain the current version of the adopted text for PSY 2012 without any changes for all adjuncts on all 4 campuses for the remainder of the adoption period (i.e., until the end of the Summer semester 2015)

### **ITEM 2 New Cluster Chair**

**Discussion:** Dr. Blair informed the cluster that he and Dr. Maria Francisca Arbona would become following this meeting the new co-cluster chairs of Psychology

**Action:** All the cluster members acknowledged and accepted this change.

### **ITEM 3 Abnormal Psychology Course Development**

**Discussion:** Dr. Blair explained that he would like to develop a course in Abnormal Psychology and explained the rationale for doing so. He stated that according to the SCNS, the course number prefix and number would be CLP 2140. Also after some research and contacting Florida Atlantic University psychology department, the department there stated it would be a transferable credit for a Bachelor's Degree (BA) in psychology. Also Dr. Blair informed the cluster that many of our peer state colleges across the state of Florida such as Miami Dade College, Indian River State College, North Florida Community College, Valencia College, Santa Fe College, Brevard College, Daytona State College, Seminole College, and St. Petersburg College and others all offer Abnormal Psychology and Palm Beach State College doesn't.

**Action:** Finally Dr. Blair asked for a vote to move forward with the curriculum development of the course and all members voted yes. They also asked to prepare a list of course objectives. Dr. Blair stated he would do so. Dr. Mike Miles congratulated Dr. Blair on pursuing this course development.

#### **OTHER:**

Dr. Anderson mentioned that on her campus she was told by financial aid that SOP 2740 Feminist Psychology is not a course that financial aid would pay for. She mentioned that last semester students who had been enrolled dropped when they found this out. Mia Ocean queried if this course wasn't an AA elective. The cluster encouraged Dr. Anderson to find out whether this was accurate information because on the Lake Worth campus it has been offered for many years. Dr. Miles interjected he believed it has been offered since "the 80s." Lake Worth faculty reported that SOP 2740 is offered online and is frequently fully enrolled. Suzie Duff who currently teaches SOP 2740 reported that she currently teaches it online and it is always full.

Gisela Diaz asked about the current policy on General Education Requirements. Mia Ocean responded that she believed the requirements have remained the same.

Dr. Maria Francisca Arbona then addressed her one agenda item. She reminded cluster members that starting in the Fall 2014 semester the process for reviewing texts for the next adoption will begin. She stated that the cluster will need to be focused and selective on choosing texts. Some discussion was about the scheduling of publisher presentations. Also, Gisela Diaz also asked about what the future publisher presentations will look like and what will they include.

Gisela Diaz expressed concern about a recent pattern with the adoption process. She stated that in the past after the cluster has made an adoption, the publishing representative that worked on the adoption and who would provide service to Palm Beach State College campuses after the adoption then either gets a promotion or gets a new job. She mentioned at least 2 past incidents of this pattern. Dr. Blair mentioned the possibility of inserting a "key person" clause into the next adoption agreement.

Also Dr. Maria Francisca Arbona mentioned that with this upcoming adoption all agreements need to be in writing. Dr. Anderson said that she believed that there has always been a written contract. Dr. Maria Francisca Arbona stated that she had never seen a written adoption contract and didn't know there was ever a written adoption contract. Dr. Blair stated that he would contact Jennifer Stevens, the current Pearson Publishing representative to check on whether there is a written contract for the current adoption period.

After 40 minutes the cluster adjourned.

**Attendance: Cluster Members Present: Dr. Maria Francisca Arbona, Suzie Duff, Mia Ocean, Dr. Roxanna Anderson, Dr. Mike Miles, Gilesa Diaz, Dr. Andrew Blair, & Vanger Simmons**

Submitted by:

Dr. E. Andrew Blair

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