

(5-10-21)

WID Activities Report

The following activities were engaged in/completed for the academic calendar year 2020 – 2021. The document is organized according to activities within the Faculty Senate Charge to the Writing Instruction in the Discipline (WID) Council.

WID Council Members (Dept/End of WID Term): Glenn Daugherty (LEJA, 2021), Jena Gardner (Music, 2022), Janice Gates (Management & Marketing, 2023), Joel Gruver (Agriculture, 2022), Doug LaFountain (Mathematics & Philosophy, 2022), Brian Locke (Music, 2021), Kim McClure (Psychology, 2021), Kaycee Peterman (Health Sciences & Social Work, 2023)

Ex Officio: Magdelyn Helwig (English), Director of Writing Programs, Amy Mossman (English), Writing Center Director

Retiring Members: Glenn Daugherty, Brian Locke, Kim McClure

Activities

1. **To recommend to the Faculty Senate the approval and disapproval of all new WID courses.**

ARTH 393 – Gender and Embodiment in the Visual Arts – reviewed and approved 11.19.20

2. **To conduct periodic reviews of all WID courses to assure compliance with the principles and practices of the Writing Instruction in the Disciplines graduation requirement.**

The issue of a periodic review for WID courses that is more than simply enrollment-based was discussed. The 3-year college rotation calendar is “restarting” providing an opportunity to develop a new method of evaluation. The spring provided an opportunity to discuss (2.18.21; 3.18.21) and develop (4.15.21) a survey to determine how well WID-designated courses coincide with WID goals. Beginning in the fall 2021, the survey will be distributed to department chairs to forward the survey link to faculty teaching WID courses for that semester. The council anticipates that colleges will complete the survey on the same rotating basis as student counts. One or two WID Council members should be designated to compile survey responses. This may be in the form of sub-committee designated for the academic year.

3. **To monitor course enrollment in WID courses.**

Enrollment numbers for WID Courses were reviewed (2.18.21). Two courses were over enrolled by 1 to 2 students. It was determined that an email to the chairs of these departments was unnecessary.

4. **To sponsor one or more faculty development activities each year to improve Writing Instruction in the Disciplines courses.**

One faculty development opportunity was provided through a CITR Zoom-based session. The WID workshop was held Friday, Apr 30th, 2021 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm entitled, *Writing Instruction in the Discipline: Wins and Woes*. It was attended by two WID Council Members, and the Director of Writing Programs and the Writing Center Director.

5. **Miscellaneous**

- a. Acquiring a student member for WID Council has been challenging despite the outreach to SGA (see WID Council meeting minutes 9.17.20 and 10.15.20). It will be important to reach out to the SGA for the next academic year.

(5-10-21)

- b. WID Council now has its own email address: widcouncil@wiu.edu Outgoing WID Chairs will communicate with incoming chairs about access.
- c. WID Council has a shared Google-Drive.
- d. Additional WID syllabi were uploaded and linked to the WID Council webpage.
- e. WID Council webpage was updated and will need further revision to reflect incoming new members: Matt Bean (Music, 2024), Melissa Stinnett (Curriculum and Instruction, 2024), Merrill Cole (English, 2024).
- f. Incoming WID Council Executive Committee for 2021 – 2022 includes Doug LaFountain (Chair), Kaycee Peterman (Vice-Chair), and Jena Gardner (Secretary)

There were a number of aspects of the Faculty Senate charge that were not addressed by the 2020 – 2021 WID Council. These included:

1. To recommend to the Faculty Senate the approval and disapproval of all significant changes in the WID requirements for individual majors.
No significant changes were brought before the WID Council.
2. To maintain a list of all current instructors of WID courses.
This requires coordination between governing bodies and administrative support. It is also a record that would need to be updated every semester. It is recommended that once compiled it be stored on the shared drive and updated each semester. A WID sub-committee could be responsible for updates in the middle of the fall and spring semesters.
3. To secure periodic feedback from students, faculty, alumni, and employers concerning implementation and effects of the Writing Instruction in the Disciplines graduation requirement.
It is unclear how this task should be addressed and while on the face of it, valuable, it may require more resources than are currently available.